JUNE – JULY 2010
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AOR 000

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From the Editor's Desk

We continue celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the *Australian Orchid Review*. Graham Morris from Valley Orchids in South Australia has written a thought provoking article on the role commercial nurseries play in orchid clubs and societies. He highlights the vast difference in the target market for potplant and showbench style plants, in relation to cymbidiums. Sadly, due to the economic downturn of the past decade, the size and number of specialist plant retailers – and orchid nurseries are no exception – have declined throughout the country. One only has to pick up an orchid magazine from the 1990s to see how many advertisers have closed or are no longer trading. It is vital for hobbyists to support the orchid nurseries that are sourcing most of the new orchid varieties (both species and hybrids) to ensure a brighter future for all stakeholders.

Bill Dobson, who is a master grower of *Dendrobium speciosum* and other native dendrobiums, discusses some of the various members of the Section *Latouria*, with emphasis on some of the New Guinea species he is growing, with tips on their culture. He is also a fine photographer, and his image of the stylish *Dendrobium* Cosmic Gold appeared on page 7 of the previous issue of the *AOR*.

Tinonee Orchid Nursery will be holding their annual Open Day & Show on Sunday 11th July 2010. In conjunction with this event, the Parramatta & District Orchid Society will be coordinating a bushwalk to Ellenborough Falls on the day before (Saturday 10th July). For more details contact the nursery who will give you more information including meeting points and times. The bushwalk will be led by John Riley, Dennis Sinclair, Michael Harrison and I.

Two of the biggest national *Cymbidium* shows are to be held in early August. The 2010 National Cymbidium Show will be held in Perth, Western Australia on the weekend of 7th-8th August. On the other side of the continent, the 2010 National Orchid Extravaganza (predominantly a Cymbidium Show, with various miscellaneous orchids also benched) will be held at Dural NSW from 6th-8th August. See the advertisements for details of both events in this issue.

OSCOV, in conjunction with the Melbourne Orchid Spectacular will be holding an International Speakers Day on Saturday 21st August 2010. The seminar will feature four well-known speakers, including Pepe Portilla (Ecuador) from Equagenera, Fred Clark (USA) from Sunset Valley Orchids, Hendrik Vorster (South Africa) from H.Q. Orchids and Bill Thoms (USA) Hilltop House Orchids. The entry fee is $50 per person which includes entrance to the show and sales. Numbers are strictly limited to 100 and many tickets have already been sold to this rare event. You can book tickets by contacting Frankie Fraser on (03) 9802 9929 or visit the website www.oscov.asn.au

We sadly report the passing of David Wallace, who was the sixth Editor of the *AOR*, from 1988 to the end of 1998. He was previously an orchid judge and long time committeeman for the OSNSW, and a Past President of Blue Mountains & District Orchid Society. ■

David Banks
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JUNE – JULY 2010
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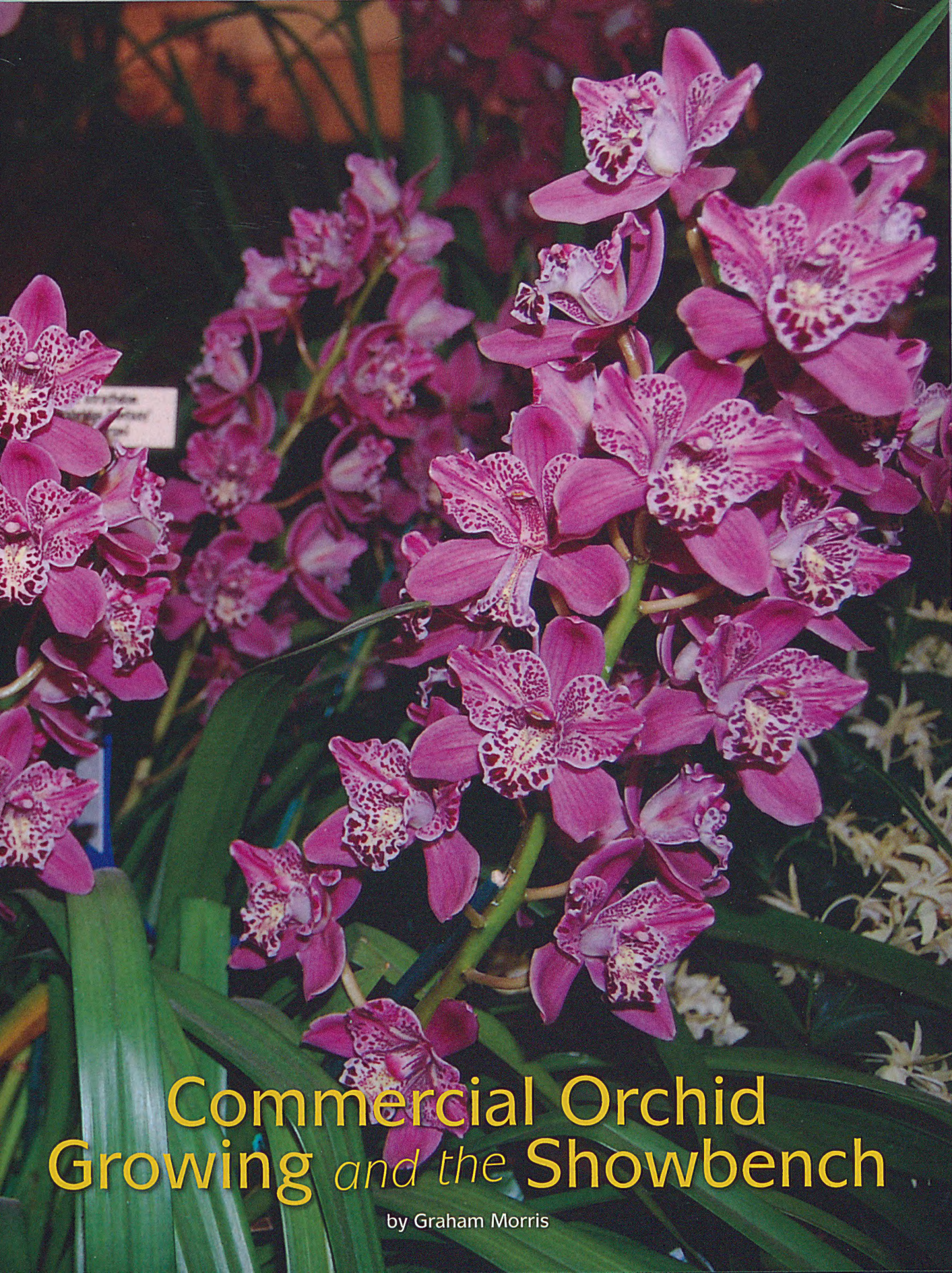
Cover Shot

***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'** AM/AOS is an intergeneric combination that was thought for decades to be a pure *Laelia* hybrid.

See the full story in this issue.

Plant: Hills District Orchids, Photo: David Banks.

Cymbidium Strathdon 'Cooksbridge Fantasy' Imported from the USA. The gardening public will love this one. It is valuable because it mericlones true to form, unlike many other pelorics (that revert to "normal" flowers, without the splashing on the petals)



Commercial Orchid Growing *and the* Showbench

by Graham Morris

I have some reservations about writing this article. Some readers will disagree with much of it. Some readers will agree wholeheartedly. Some readers will be offended. Some will think I don't know what I am talking about! If you are likely to be offended, as they say on TV, before showing scenes which might cause offense, look away now...

To a casual observer, one would think that a commercial grower, often with thousands of plants and often superior growing conditions, should dominate on the showbench over amateur growers. One could also be puzzled as to why commercial growers are not more active at shows and displays, where they could promote their product. This article attempts to outline why it can be difficult for a serious commercial grower, to participate strongly in the Orchid Club/ Society scene, and to be competitive on the showbench. I also offer some thoughts for changes which could address this issue and make orchid growing even better for all. The article is presented, after being very active, initially as a private grower for 40 years or so, often being critical of the commercial growers, for not participating and showing. Over the past 10 years or so, I have operated a big *Cymbidium* nursery, selling mainly to the wholesale market, and have changed my understanding greatly.

Plants grown by a commercial grower (for purchase by the general public) and those grown by a showbench grower (orchid club members) **are very different**. Sales to orchid club members account for only a few percent of overall sales, and in Australia they are mainly cymbidiums. If a commercial grower was to rely on sales to orchid club members for most of his turnover, he would have a very small target market. The number of sales of any particular variety would be small, and he would need to continually develop new varieties, capable of winning prizes at a show, just to continue selling plants. A well performing showbench orchid would need to have very superior shape and colour. How well it grows and flowers, seems to be not very important. Many showbench growers will tolerate a slow grower, or shy flowerer, so long as it gives them a chance of winning, when it eventually flowers.

Conversely, the market to the general public is relatively huge. Flower shape to the general public is relatively unimportant, so long as it has lots of flowers, and has good colour. Lots of flowers is most important. The public will pay a premium price for a multi-spiking plant. The grower requires that it grows quickly and flowers easily and profusely, with little manipulation of the flowers and foliage. A plant which is slow growing, then does not have lots of flowers, will cause the commercial grower much financial grief.

Now the dilemma...

1. Can a commercial grower afford to seriously participate in showing his plants at an orchid club?
2. Can orchid clubs survive without the involvement of the commercial grower?

Think about the following...

1. Operating a successful commercial plant nursery is hard work. It requires long hours of operation to succeed. The operator is generally on call 24 hours a day, 365 days each year.

***Cymbidium* Pure Sarah 'Cascade' won Grand Champion at the South Australian Winter Show in 2008. It is very difficult for a smaller plant to compete with this, and needed years of preparation and very special transport requirements. It took specially made packaging and occupied more than half of a large van for transport!**

Customers are demanding and operating costs increase continually. Selling prices rarely increase as quickly as costs. Plants grown for commercial purposes (lots of flowers, not necessarily of good shape), are not judged favourably by orchid club judges. To succeed at shows, the commercial grower must grow some showbench orchids, in addition to the commercial varieties. This takes space and time, with little or no financial return. He must also spend time preparing plants to be shown, usually at a time when he should be preparing plants for sale. Many commercial growers want to support the show effort of the orchid clubs, and end up showing their commercial varieties, just to be involved. Should they not win prizes, they risk criticism for their lack of success. Many commercial growers therefore choose just not to get involved. It is too hard and the returns not worth the effort. Any awards for showbench varieties are not of much commercial value.

2. Most orchid clubs get good support from many commercial growers. Support can come in many forms.

a. Donation of raffle plants at monthly meetings and shows

b. Sponsorship

c. Donations for major prize winners or champion classes at shows

d. Guest speaking appearances

e. Time spent on committees, often in senior positions

f. Time spent promoting the club e.g. radio interviews & commercial endorsements

g. Liaison with authorities and service providers

h. Plants for growing competitions at special prices

i. Teaching beginners and solving cultural problems

Time spent on club matters is often significant and can interfere with time available to run the nursery. The biggest problem is that the shows are usually scheduled when the nursery is at its busiest, when plants are being prepared for sale. Most orchid club members have no idea how difficult it can be, and the pressures encountered, just to assist the clubs and exhibit plants at a show. Many expect the commercial grower to have a significant presence at all shows.

What can a commercial grower get from exhibiting at a club meeting or show?

At the moment, not much. His bread and butter plants are not in demand for the showbench. If one was to propagate more than a couple of hundred plants of a showbench champion, many would not be sold. By comparison, a quality commercial variety, which quickly produces lots of flowers, can be sold in very large numbers. It is common in Australia for more than a thousand of some good varieties to be sold, each year, year after year. Overseas, some varieties sold to the general public, are grown in huge numbers, often 50,000 to 100,000 per year.

Where is orchid growing going – can it improve

Sadly, many orchid clubs are struggling to survive. Members are getting older and it is difficult to attract new members. Generally most of our new members are not young. How can we attract new and

Cymbidium **(Khan Flame x Valley Vapour) is a lovely strong pink which was chosen by an overseas grower as a mass production variety. The owner will receive royalties from this plant**

younger members? Will the clubs survive?

Long established commercial nurseries are closing. They are not being replaced and it is getting more difficult for newcomers to source good quality plants.

Our environment is changing quickly. House blocks are generally smaller than in the past, making it difficult to provide a good growing area for our plants. Many people are time poor, with family and/or work commitments, making time for growing our plants more difficult to find.

I believe we need to change, to make growing orchids easier, and change further to attract new members.

Orchids are still perceived by many to be difficult to grow and particularly to get them to flower. If we consider the growing of cymbidiums, as the most common entry point for new growers, are we making it easy enough for any newcomer to take the step and join a club?

I am always disappointed, when we conduct a show and have large numbers of people view the show, that we get very few new members from our considerable efforts. Often we just do not do enough to attract even a few of those show visitors to a club meeting. The very survival of a club relies on getting new members and most clubs fail dismally in this area. Perhaps a special meeting for beginners should be scheduled after each show – maybe a free plant for attending their first meeting. At the very least, handouts telling prospective new members about the club and where it meets should be given out. A beginners group is a great way to soften the impact of having to make the step and attend a meeting, with a lot of strangers. When a new member gets involved, it is hard, and can take a long time to become competitive. Surely it is also time to reconsider our judging methods, and make it easier for new members to be able to compete quickly. For a start, they cannot even show a plant, until they own it for 6 months (perhaps we could soften this rule for the first 12 months or so of new membership). Very often the champion cymbidium is a very large plant, which has taken many years to grow big enough to win. Many growers cannot grow or transport a large plant, so cannot compete. Small cymbidium plants (particularly miniatures) rarely win major prizes. Surely it is time to make it easier for all to win, not just those with big growing areas and a vehicle large enough to transport a large plant, without damaging it. Think about the grower, who might just have a small growing area and a small car, which effectively excludes them from growing large specimen plants. They might even just want to grow small plants, which they can handle, but unlikely to win major prizes.

Can anyone tell me – Why do we compete and have our plants judged? I thought Gordon Giles's article in the last issue of the *AOR* was great and posed some good and timely questions.

Is the champion plant of a show, a win for the actual plant, or does it indicate that the grower is a champion grower?

Perhaps we should consider making it easier, confining plants to be judged, to one in a particular sized pot, perhaps a 200mm (8 inch) pot for standard cymbidiums. A special class could be introduced, to judge the champion grower, with one particular variety selected, in a standard size pot (example *Cym.* Valley Splash 'Awesome', in a

***Cymbidium* Red Nelly 'Purple Satin' has really good shape, but the colour and spike habit is more important from a commercial perspective**

Cymbidium Blazing Dream 'TeePee' has fabulous colour and high production making a cultivar like this a good pot plant

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200mm pot). We should make it fair for all growers to compete on a level playing field. I am not suggesting we do not have larger plants (specimens). I am just suggesting that we standardise the growing condition of plants **to be judged**, to make it fair for all and easier to get it right. Just imagine in car racing – what would happen if we raced a small engine car, against the super performance V8's. Those who could not get into a V8 would never win and would probably not get involved.

To get more participation, clubs must make it more worthwhile to be involved. Expecting a commercial grower to grow plants which are not their bread and butter is unreasonable. Awards received for showbench varieties which are not productive, are useless. From an outside perspective, why award a plant, if it has deficiencies? A plant which does not grow or flower well is deficient. Why is the judging system so focussed on the shape of the flower & almost completely uncaring of other characteristics, such as fast growth and prolific flower production?

More on the dilemma above...

To be able to survive and hopefully thrive, most responsible organisations regularly review the way they operate,

Cymbidium Marilyn Levy 'Graham' is a nice example of a good pot plant

and make changes to meet future challenges. How many orchid clubs do this? Are they serious about meeting the challenges to come, or will they just try to tackle deficiencies, when it could be too late?

Earlier I asked the following questions

1. Can a commercial grower afford to participate in showing his plants at an orchid club?
2. Can orchid clubs survive without the involvement of the commercial grower?

I believe the answer to both, is probably not.

Perhaps at this stage, I should comment on the financial assistance to cymbidium clubs, by commercial nurseries, that I personally know about and ask where would they be today without that assistance.

1. Significant sponsorship of the National Shows for many years by Fleurijn Orchids – Holland – Over $5,000 per year for 7 or 8 years.
2. Huge sponsorship by Yunnan Semi Floraculture from China to the Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia - Two payments of $10,000.
3. Royalty payments from Neutrog – for testing and endorsing Strike Back for Orchids fertiliser. Resulting in significant payments to State based cymbidium clubs.
4. Numerous donations for Champion classes at State and National shows by many commercial nurseries – most often $50 to $250 per year, but there are many donations and they are ongoing.
5. Sponsorship by the City of Port Adelaide & Enfield Council also the Onkaparinga Councils (Adelaide) to assist in conducting the National Shows – Value over $10,000.
6. I know there are other payments from commercial nurseries, which I am not familiar with. Plus other major sponsorships. Apologies if I have not acknowledged them here.

These payments have greatly helped the clubs receiving them. They have certainly enabled clubs to operate more comfortably and provide better services to their members. In some cases, without them, shows like the National Shows, would have struggled, perhaps just not happened. Most of these donations or sponsorships came initially from commercial nurseries being involved with the clubs.

We should also consider the quality of our plants and what is our status in world terms. Each year we have many overseas growers visit us, seeking new varieties for production in very large numbers in their country. Our plants are eagerly sought by overseas growers, who are prepared to pay royalties for superior new varieties. This year I will be paying a small number of private growers, royalty payments from overseas nurseries a total of almost $9000, in addition to royalties for my own plants. One grower is to receive $2000 for one plant, which was seen at a club show, and didn't even win a significant prize. He can expect more payments for the same plant for some years.

Our present judging systems do not encourage commercial growers to participate. There is a risk that in future commercial growers will not get involved at all. There are many already who do not participate. There will be many hobbyists who will not wish to take the emphasis away from the shape factor. Perhaps they should consider what would happen to our clubs, without commercial support.

The general public are not concerned about the shape of an orchid flower.

Commercial growers are not concerned about the shape of an orchid flower.

Is the fixation on shape of an orchid flower, without consideration of other commercial properties, worth continuing with?

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Above: *Cymbidium* (Hazel Fay x Wallacia) 'Bengal' Colour, colour, colour! - It would sell well but flower spike habit and arrangement could be a worry

Valley Orchids

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AOR203

Above: *Cymbidium* Denva Sunset 'Aurora' displays wonderful sunset tones despite having poor shape from a judging perspective

Cym. Francie Porter 'Enid' FCC/AOC

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present the

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Open Saturday 9.00am to 5.00pm Sunday 9.00am to 4.00pm

www.cymbidiumclubwa.com.au Entry $5 Children + Pensioners $3

Major Sponsor: Fleurijn Orchids, Holland

Above: *Cymbidium* Amber Sands 'Harlequin' is a highly colourful and very floriferous and productive cultivar bred by Gordon Giles of NSW

Below: *Cymbidium* Autumn Emerald is an example of a great pot-plant with clear contrasting colours and high production from small containers

Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia
Spring Show 2010

If you are visiting Adelaide in August, make time to check out the spectacular show of Cymbidium Orchids from Sunday 22nd to Saturday 28th August 2010, at the West Lakes Shopping Centre.

It will be our eighteenth show, held at the centre & attracts enthusiasts from all over South Australia, and interstate, as well as regular visitors from China, Korea and New Zealand.

The Club thanks Westfield and Neutrog for their ongoing support. Come and see displays throughout the shopping centre & see many new and desirable cymbidiums.

Cymbidium **(Wyong Flame x Alexandra's Flame)**
2009 Grand Champion at the CCSA
- Grown by Colin & Non Grigg
(photo: David Harmer)

***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'**

Laeliocattleya Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'

A wonderful intergeneric hybrid orchid masquerading under a wrong name...

by David P. Banks

Now there will be quite a few people after seeing the front cover photo, and the caption to this plant, thinking... "Hang on, isn't that *Laelia* Finckeniana 'Kennedys' AM/AOS?".

Indeed the featured plant was awarded back in 1977 by the American Orchid Society, who granted it an Award of Merit. There is no doubting the horticultural attractiveness of this particular orchid, yet it seemed no-one challenged its name and alleged parentage. This went on for close to three decades.

Laelia x *finckeniana* was described by O'Brien in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* III, 13: 194 back in 1893, as a natural hybrid between a white form of *Laelia anceps* and *Laelia albida*. According to Carl Withner (1990) in Volume II – The Laelias in his six-part series *The Cattleyas and Their Relatives*: "The plant had been chosen by Fincken (an orchid grower in Europe) because of its distinctive appearance from an imported lot of *Laelia anceps*, coming from the Pacific side of Mexico, made by the Liverpool Horticultural Co." Withner also notes that this hybrid has been remade in cultivation and suggests that such plants should be "properly named *Laelia* Finckeniana". This is to differentiate between the natural hybrid (in italics with the multiplication sign before the epithet) that occurs in Mexico and man-made examples (in Roman).

I first saw the plant known as *Laelia* Finckeniana 'Kennedys' flowering in the impressive Californian collection of the late Dr. John Christie, during a visit to the USA about fifteen years ago. John specialised in Laelias and also had a soft spot for Australian Dendrobiums. It was also here where I first saw a plant of the white form of *Laelia superbiens* (syn. *Schomburgkia superbiens*). John relayed the story that this plant was given to him by the late Dr. George Kennedy (hence the clonal name), apparently from a collection in Mexico.

I had never heard of this orchid before and was really impressed with its very attractive clean flowers. John kindly gave me a division which I subsequently brought back with me to Australia (after its inevitable gassing and subsequent 3-month stint in quarantine).

It took a while for the plant to get over the gassing and adjust to the change in hemisphere, but after a few years it got into its pattern of flowering annually from late April to mid June. A few years after this I obtained another plant, again labelled as *Laelia* Finckeniana from Sydney orchid enthusiast Bill Dobson. This plant had come from the famous Santa Barbara Orchid Estate (SBOE) in California. It wasn't until I was talking to Paul Gripp (the founding manager of the SBOE from 1957 AKA "The Orchid Man") in 2005 that he mentioned that his plant also originally came from John Christie, so there was no doubt we were talking about the same plant!

Cattleya bowringiana* forma *coerulea (Chadwick Orchids)

Laelia* x *finckeniana White form of the natural hybrid (Los Angeles Arboretum)

***Laelia* Finckeniana** (mauve form of the artificial cross)

***Laelia anceps* subsp. *dawsonii* 'Rays Blush'**
also seen in USA collections under the cultivar name 'Delicata' (Hills District Orchids)

***Laelia* Finckeniana 'Santa Barbara'**
HCC/AOS Note the heavy *anceps* influence in the labellum (SBOE)

***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Pink Lady'**
Cultivar with a darker edge to the labellum (Japan)

I spent a fair bit of time in Santa Barbara on my 2005 visit, and it coincided with the peak flowering season for *Laelia anceps*. On one of the evenings I gave a presentation to the Santa Barbara Orchid Society, but what stuck in my memory was the impromptu joint plant description given by Paul and myself discussing the wide variation within *Laelia anceps* and some of its hybrids displayed at the meeting. As luck would have it, there was also a plant benched as *Laelia* Finckeniana 'Kennedys' on the exhibition tables. When we got to that plant I asked Paul "do you *really* think that *Laelia anceps* is one of the parents?" I then gave my reasons for doubting it, both in the number and shape of the flowers, habit of inflorescence plus the growth habit. He paused, and was very measured in his reply, as he had secretly questioned its parentage. He told the audience that he was confident that *Laelia albida* was one of the parents, but "not sure" what the other half was. What he had done recently was remake the hybrid using the white *Laelia anceps* 'SanBar Qaxaquena' AM/AOS (a superior clone of the subspecies *dawsonii*) and *Laelia albida*. At the time, none of these seedlings had flowered.

Paul was also kind enough to drive me to LA airport from Santa Barbara (2 hour + drive), and we had a great and in-depth conversation on Laelias and related orchid topics along the way. He is such a knowledgeable orchid expert and a wonderful gentleman as well. He is obviously very proud of his children Parry and Alice (both educated, lovely and friendly people) who now co-own the SBOE.

Well these seedlings Paul spoke about have now flowered, and have turned out exactly what you would expect by combining these popular Mexican species – with the flowers intermediate between the parents. They produced beautiful clear white flowers on tall spikes, with the labellum markings similar to the parents. The clone *Laelia* Finckeniana 'Santa Barbara' subsequently received a Highly Commended Certificate from the American Orchid Society. On the Santa Barbara Orchid Estate website they pointedly list this plant as "the only awarded **true** *Laelia* Finckeniana". There have also been remakes done with the typical lavender colour form of *Laelia anceps*.

This "true" hybrid has many of the characters that you expect from *Laelia anceps* hybrids (that are absent in the so-called *Laelia* Finckeniana 'Kennedys'). Such as the markedly two-edged pseudobulbs (with only one or two leaves), the distinct (and often long) rhizome between the pseudobulbs and the tall (and flattened) inflorescence with few "star-like" flowers at the extremities are some of the diagnostic features that are dominant.

But the really telling factor is this. *Laelia* species all have 8 pollinia. It is the major diagnostic feature that separates them taxonomically from the related *Cattleya*, which has 4 pollinia. Our so-called *Laelia* Finckeniana 'Kennedys' produces 4 large pollinia masses (often incorrectly termed as grains) and 4 small and poorly formed pollinia bundles. This confirms that this popular cultivar is actually an intergeneric hybrid between *Laelia* and *Cattleya*; our *Laelia* Finckeniana 'Kennedys' is really a *Laeliocattleya*. So what is the other parent?

***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Mikkei'**
Paler cultivar with richer markings in the labellum (Japan)

I deduced that it would have to be a *Cattleya* species that has cylindrical pseudobulbs, with two or three leaves, no elongated or distinct rhizome between the pseudobulbs, and clusters of rose-purple flowers with a similar labellum to the "intergeneric hybrid". As luck would have it, when I was debating this in my mind, I had a plant of *Cattleya bowringiana* in bloom. It was one of those "lightbulb" moments. That's it!

First thing was to check the registered name, as this would be an obvious hybrid to make. Indeed, *Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida (what an original name!) was registered by Thayer in 1901. It was a common practice for many of the early man-made hybrids to grant names that were a combination of their parents.

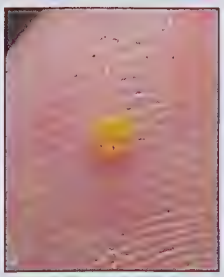
***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'**
Basically a vibrant and glistening concolor musk-pink with bright yellow in the throat of the labellum

There have also been a number of awarded cultivars of *Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida in the USA, including 'Worrall' HCC/AOS (1971) and 'Huntington' HCC/AOS (1984). I have not seen photos of those particular clones, but on searching the Internet (using Google) I found some addition named cultivars from Japan, including 'Pink Lady' and 'Mikkei'. The accompanying photographs further confirmed that this was exactly the same grex as the plant incorrectly labelled as *Laelia* Finckeniana 'Kennedys'. They were basically identical in flower and labellum shape with some clonal variation in colour, as is to be expected from variable parents. There are also a number of images of various plants, simply listed as *Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida, on several websites in the USA.

Therefore I would recommend to those who are fortunate to own *Laelia* Finckeniana 'Kennedys' to relabel your plants as ***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'**. Well grown and flowered examples will have up to 14 flowers on upright inflorescences (up to 65cm tall), but ten on the spike would be normal on mature plants. The individual clear musk-pink blooms are up to 75mm across. I am not sure what (if anything) the AOS Awards Register will do with this. I have no doubt that this is now the correct name for this plant, made with either a white or pale pink *Laelia albida* and a typical rose-coloured *Cattleya bowringiana* or possibly the rarer "bluish" form known as variety or forma *coerulea*.

This information now also rules out the natural hybrid theory for this 'Kennedys' plant. As *Laelia albida* is endemic to Mexico, whereas *Cattleya bowringiana* is from Guatemala and neighbouring Belize and Honduras. It most probably was a garden hybrid that had simply been in cultivation for many years.

***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'**
Labellum detail



***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'**
Pollinia – note the uppermost well developed 4 sets of pollinia, with the tiny inferior bundles underneath – a feature of Laeliocattleyas

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Laeliocattleya Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'

Cultivation

This striking orchid is a very easy hybrid to grow, and is a great example of heterosis (hybrid vigour). We grow our plants in the shadehouse, exactly the same as other sun-loving and "tough" orchids such as *Laelia anceps* and our own *Dendrobium speciosum* (which in some way this hybrid resembles vegetatively!). The larger plants are hung-up so they get maximum air circulation and avoid competing shade from neighbouring plants. In California they refer to such orchids as "temperature tolerant", and I think this is another Paul Gripp term! Basically this implies that the plant can be grown out of doors, and will take the cold of winter (down to brief periods at the frost level) to spells of extreme heat in summer. These plants can handle a wide temperature range, both throughout the year, and diurnal. A course well-drained bark based medium suits this hybrid well. Plants may be watered and fertilised liberally whilst in active growth (throughout the warmer months) with the plants kept dryer during their short winter dormancy. There are plans in Australia to have this cultivar mericloned. (All plants in this article of *Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys', grown and photographed by the author.)

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Above and Right:
***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'**

Below:
***Laeliocattleya* Bowri-Albida 'Kennedys'**

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AOR 065

Macodes petola var. petola

Macodes sanderiana

Macodes, the "Diamonds" of the Jewel Orchids

Text and photos by Michael Dorris

The orchids commonly described as "Jewel Orchids" are usually found in the Subfamily *Spiranthoideae*, Subtribe *Goodyerinae* with about 40 genera with about 480 species (Dressler 1983). They have patterned leaves that may have substantial colour and generally small and sometimes insignificant flowers.

Jewel orchids grow on the forest floor, in low light, along creeks and rivers in the loam and mosses, hidden among fallen leaves, where the leaf netting resembles the veins of the fallen leaves, hiding them. Some can be found on mossy cliffs and rocky out cropping; these are regarded as lithophytes. Tending towards mildly acidic soils, regardless of limestone substrates. They are generally creeping plants with few roots that arise at the nodes of a horizontal stem.

Macodes was created in 1840 by Lindley in *Genera and Species of Orchidaceous Plants*. The genus meaning "length" in Greek referring to the comparatively long lip, (but I am not sure what he was thinking). There are about ten described species within the genus that are frequently mistaken for *Anoectochilus* and *Dossinia*. The flowers of this genera have a slightly twisted column and small green or brown petals, often with glandular pubescence; in other words, hairs with sticky drops at the tips. The foliage of the species have little in common except they have more colours and patterns then other genera.

Macodes petola was also named in 1840 by Lindley in the above mentioned publication. It is found from Sumatra to the Philippines in lowland and lower montane forests as a warm growing terrestrial with creeping rhizomes. Comber records it growing "in damp forests which do not have a long dry season, in rather dark situations from 300 - 1400m." The plant has an inflorescence up to 20 cm tall, with few flowers (blooming in winter) seemingly smaller then you would expect for even a jewel orchid. The plant is a celebration of green and yellow iridescence.

Macodes petola is one of the most common jewel orchids on the market because it's easy to clone and has such good colour. There are a number of varieties; **var. *petola*** with yellow veins; **var. *robusta***, with longitudinal veins only; and **var. *argenteoreticulata*** (syn. var. *javanica*), with white transverse veins that join with the longitudinal veins. There is a red form but it more burgundy then red and is regarded as

being the Sumatran form. The standard form does develop a red tint in rich light. I find this species clumps and spreads like a weed. *Macodes petola* is easy to grow even if you don't know anything about orchids. Like most jewel orchids it does tend to fall apart after it flowers; reduce the water by half helps prevent this.

Interestingly, *Macodes petola* is in demand as a stimulant in traditional Borneo medicines. Leon Glicenstein of the late Hoosier Orchid Company, USA, recounts a tradition in Java where children just learning to read, eat *Macodes petola* to help them read as the veins resemble the letters of the local language. I tried it...but I felt nothing and it's not the best tasting jewel orchid!

Macodes lowii is something of a mystery. Found in Borneo as a terrestrial orchid that blooms in the summer, there is evidence it grows north of Borneo. The plant that falls under this name in the trade has bloomed as an unidentified *Anoectochilus*. So is the true species actually in cultivation? *Anoectochilus lowii*, (which is synonymous with *Dossinia marmorata* and *Macodes lowii*, depending on the reference), shows the complete mess involved as *Anoectochilus* and *Dossinia* and have flowers distinctly different then *Macodes*. Needless to say what is in cultivation has brownish leaves; white veins that blush pink with natural light, leggy, creeping. The new leaves tend to be a few shades of brown lighter. Tolerating a humid low of 32°C in summer and the occasional light frost in winter. I tend to think the real *Macodes lowii* is or could be a form of *Dossinia marmorata*. My plants have not yet bloomed.

Macodes sanderiana is a warm growing terrestrial from Papua New Guinea from 400 to 800 metres growing in leaf-litter on rocks with almost oval leaves

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Macodes lowii

that begin like *Macodes petola* but as they mature take on orange tones and gradually the squares of the geometric pattern turn black with lime green veins at the leaf base, yellow gold in the middle and orange towards the leaf tip. The whole leaf shifts and changes its colour as it ages - ending in a black collection of squares with yellow netting and a purplish underside. Blooms in the autumn and winter on a 25 to 30 cm tall thin spike with few, brown flowers that look like the head of a bee. A spike that might be best pinched off! After it flowers the plant seems to dissolve into a yellow shrivelled mess until it puts out a new shot or two and starts over again. Overall; slow growing with a few leaves, 8 cm. Does not have a creeping habit, but clumps well. Most often this plant is mistaken for *Dossinia marmorata*, *Macodes sanderiana* is not burgundy and has ever so slightly undulated leaf margins, which form a pale yellow frame around the leaf.

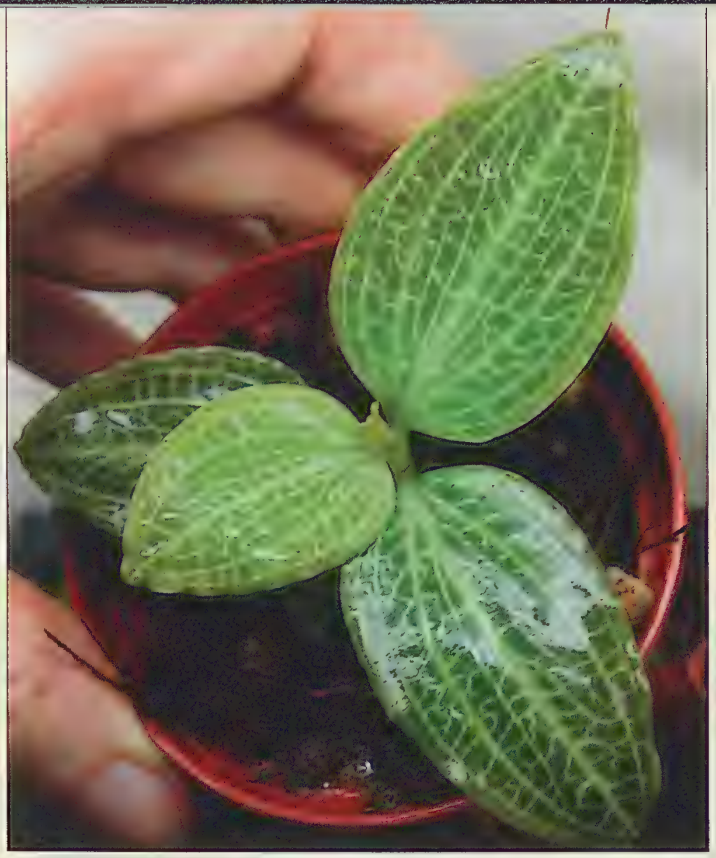
Cultivation

Light: Low light 500 to 1500 foot candles (easy to read a newspaper under) similar requirements to *Phalaenopsis*. They may be successfully grown as house plants.

Temperature: 15°C to 30°C generally, throughout the year.

Humidity: 50% is low. 70%+ is better. They do very well in terrariums with some air flow. High humidity is the key to growing these plants.

Water: Recall the old adage: "Know how to water an orchid, you know how to grow it". In the growing



Above: *Macodyera* Amphisilva (*Macodes sanderiana* x *Goodyera pubescens*) what's interesting here is the *Goodyera* is an American native, from Canada to Florida and actually like to be cold, but combined well with one of the most tropical *Macodes*

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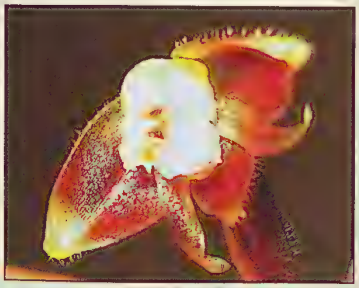
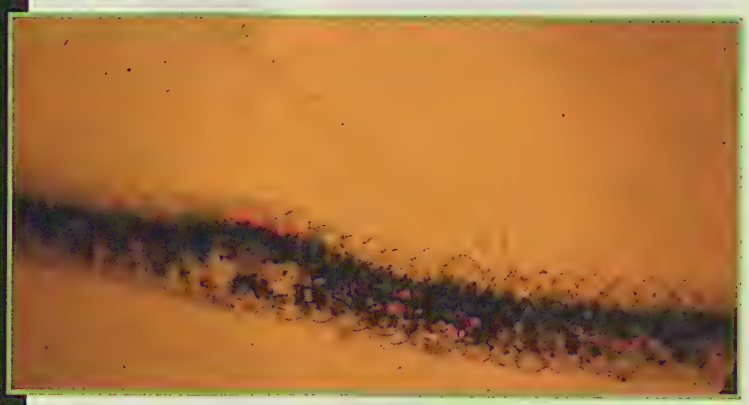
Above: *Macodisia* Lemon and Lime
(*Macodes sanderiana* x *Ludisia discolor* var. *ordiana*)

Above: *Macodisia* Lemon and Lime (flowers)



Left: *Macodes petola* showing floral detail



Above: *Macodes* (cross-section of the leaves) the leaves of these are iridescent, and the reason is the way the cells on the leaf surface protrude and stand out. It is most prominent on the tropical Jewel Orchid genera and species

Left: *Macodes petola* x *Anoectochilus formosanus*
showing floral detail on this intergeneric combination

season, once a week from spring to autumn. In the resting season, halve the water (or less), throughout winter. Don't be shy about letting it really dry down to wilting; as root rot can kill a hard to find plant. (And kill it much quicker than a plant kept bone dry)

Media: Acid 5.5 to 6 pH. 10% charcoal, 50% high quality indoor plant potting mix, 40% 3mm bark; makes a good mix. Repot infrequently. Shallow pots, less than 5 cm deep. Repot in spring when new growth appear. People do like and use *Sphagnum* moss, I find it allows fertiliser salt build up and can lead to rot; it works sometimes and not others; I would suggest sterilising the moss before use.

Pests: Thankfully, not a lot of bugs eat Jewel orchids, but look out for the following:

- Mites are very small spider-like insects that can damage plants very quickly making the leaves look sandblasted. Low humidity brings mites. Slightly soapy water sprayed on the plants everyday for a week should control them; misting every day is not a mistake. I find the best overall control is 10 drops of essential oil from something like orange with 2 drops of liquid soap in 4 litres; used 2 to 3 times a week really keeps bugs under control.
- Snails and slugs can eat collections and hide in the media. From mild to wild. Put pot in water for 24 hrs, the slugs/snails crawl to the top. Diatomaceous earth, spread on the surface of the media, must be a bit dry to work. Iron phosphate, is toxic to them but must be eaten, scatter on media not on the leaves. Metaldehyde, the most toxic pesticide, scatter on media surface, not on the leaves. Trying a bit of all will do the best job. Take the necessary precautions when using such chemicals (especially regarding children and family pets).
- Possums/squirrels and rats/mice: will eat a collection then go for lunch. Shot guns are not the answer in the house; traps, live or very sticky and excluding the rodents from the area by sealing holes, works. Poisons get you a dead mouse in your walls. Recall rats/mice hit at night, squirrels (or as I call them tree rats) by day for us in the USA.

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Dendrobium polysema 'Lorraine'
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Growing New Guinea *Dendrobium* species and hybrids from Section *Latouria*

by Bill Dobson

I have been growing orchids and Australian native orchids for over 25 years. Over the last decade or so, thanks to Phil Spence, I have been encouraged to grow some of the delightful and rewarding Papua New Guinea (Section *Latouria*) *Dendrobium* species and hybrids. I have had some wonderful days working with Phil, if you can call it that, in his yard and bush-house cleaning up plants, repotting, talking, listening and observing how they are best grown. Working in the bush-house is my form of relaxation, away from the hassles and problems of the workday world. While potting we discuss plants and potting methods, how and where different plants grow and the names of the plants (hybrids) and the background on how some of them came into being and how and why they were named.

It was during some of these potting sessions that I really got to look at the heart of the plants, the root system. Now I do remember that when I started growing orchids, and not just natives, I was told that if you grew a good root system then the plant would look after itself. It seems that sometimes we forget the basics as times and potting methods and materials change as well as our environment, and the change can be so gradual that you don't notice it.

We are living on the Northern Beaches area of Sydney NSW where you can grow just about anything. Our growing area is a bush-house that was originally part of a commercial tunnel house it is 13.0m long x 6.5m wide and at the peak of the roof 3.6m tall. It runs directly north-south, and is on the western side of our block of land. We get good light and early morning sun on most of it even early in the morning in winter. It's covered with 50% green woven shade cloth with an extra covering of 50% shadecloth on the northern quarter all year round. Inside we have treated pine timber benches that are topped with galvanised weldmesh that the pots sit on. As well as this we have a layer of mesh and galvanised pipe 2.5m above the ground that a lot of our plants are hung from.

Over the years the conditions in our yard have changed but it didn't quite click with me, as this can be a slow gradual process. When we started we used to have trouble holding the plants on the benches because we had so much wind we had to prop bricks against them in the winter to prevent them from blowing off the benches and ending up on the ground. In those days we had our bush-house on the eastern side of our block but then changed it over to the western side against a paling fence. At the same time as this happened our neighbour subdivided his block and built a house directly alongside our bush-house only 5 metres from the fence with a result that now we had very little wind.

So here we get back to the basics again, to grow successfully you need light, water, air, and food. I was still watering the same regime but the potting mix we were using and the lack of good airflow was making the plants stay wet for too long, especially in winter. Good airflow is airflow round ALL the plant and this includes the root structure as well.

I had listened to Ken Russell (Dungog, NSW) talk on experiments he had made with measuring the temperature of pots and potting medium in winter and recording the difference from the rim of the pot to the centre and seeing it colder in the centre. This resulted in Ken doing an experiment by placing chunks of styrene foam up under the roots of the plant. The plants responded and the conclusion proved correct that the foam was insulating the roots.

Phil Spence had been using a mix for most of the PNG *Dendrobium* and Aussie natives of 4 parts medium bark and 20% styrene beads, preferably the large ones. He said that while in PNG they had been doing tests on some of the plants to see why some of them could withstand temperatures of 30° C during the day and yet down to almost 0° C at night.

Dendrobium atroviolaceum

Dendrobium finisterrae

Dendrobium engae

Dendrobium convolutum 'Tinonee'

Left: *Dendrobium rhodostictum*

Right: *Dendrobium forbesii*

The recordings showed that while the temperature of the plant above the roots varied by 30° C, the root ball, which was buried in the peat moss didn't vary by more than 2° C and seemed to keep a constant 17-19° C.

Thus the plant was able to survive and thrive in these conditions by insulating its roots. So while thousands of kilometres apart both these orchid growers and hybridists had come to the same conclusion that if the roots were insulated the plants could stand a fair variation in temperatures.

When I first started growing orchids there was a culture of potting up a plant and pressing down the mix so you could lift the plant up and the pot and mixture would not fall off. Even today some stick by this creed! Now here I was learning a different technique from Phil, just hold the plant pour in the mix then pat the sides of the pot to settle it down. If necessary top up with extra mix, then either stake the plant or use a hanger to

Dendrobium tapiniense

Dendrobium Aussie's Flash
(*finisterrae* x *convolutum*)

support the plant and tie the plant to the hanger with wire or twist-ties.

I started using this system on some of our plants at first; I wasn't going to make wholesale changes just in case. However, after the first year I noticed that plants I had potted up like this were responding really well. So we potted up some more, and they went even better. I have taken out plants this year from three years back that I must say have fantastic roots systems. So for me this is working well. Another thing I learnt that is important is that most Dendrobiums should be potted above the mix. In other words if the mix in the pot is shaped like a small hill then the orchid should sit on top of it, not buried above the eyes in it. This bark and styrene mix is perfect for us and we are growing them well.

One of the subjects that we talked about was Phil's "secret formula" that was sprinkled onto the bark and styrene mix before potting up. This was based on the UC-System published in the late fifties by the University of California on container management for plants with soil-less media. Phil copied me some of the relevant pages of different formulas and indicated the one he was using, and having success with. So I decided that I would give this a try as well. I was surprised how long it stays on the bark and seems to give the new roots something to get into.

My goal in growing orchids both species and hybrids is to grow them to their maximum potential and if I can do that they should reward me with a great display of flowers. To do this I realised that unlike in the wild where conditions were "hit and miss" plants did not often reach their maximum potential because of where they fell and the varying climatic conditions and nutrients available. So while I had been fertilising our plants it really was a bit hit and miss in my greenhouse as well. After a fair bit of research, and talking to people who grew their plants very well, I mapped out a growing or "orchid maintenance" program that would suit the plants that we grow and where and how we grow them. This program would include watering, feeding, spraying fungicides and insecticides, so that we could get our "crop" to the optimum growth with all the nutrients required to produce a good head of flowers. The main thing I realised was that to be effective it must be done on a regular basis, no excuses or deviations. So I chose Saturday morning to fertilise on our program, rain or shine, EVERY Saturday for the length of the program. For our Australian natives and PNG species and hybrids, and probably 90% of all our plants, growth is from spring through to autumn and a flowering from July to October. For the PNG species and hybrids growth and flowering is from November to April. So from autumn to spring (winter) we do not have much growth and its usually cold and sometimes wet as well so this time of the year we do not fertilise and sometimes do not water for up to 10 days. So I start our program 1st week in October and go through to the 1st week in May. For us it works really well, and the plants are giving multiple growths and exceptional flowering. Each year we

have been getting a better flowering on our plants.

We have and are continuing to get bigger and fatter pseudobulbs, and these in turn are giving us better inflorescences and flowers. With our Australian natives and PNG species and hybrids we are growing the younger plants on the benches and the mature plants are hung to give them the maximum air that our conditions will allow, I'd still like more air movement. The PNG plants in spring and summer are watered almost daily.

OK now some of the fabulous species that really are easy to grow.

Dendrobium atroviolaceum

Sea Level to 1000m. A magnificent species with white/cream petals with violet spots and the labellum is yellow with violet and green. The plants we have came from Phil and he has some variation in these. These really are hardy and tough with flowers that have amazing texture and last for up to 3 months.

Dendrobium engae

From the Enga province growing at 1800 to 2700m on large branches of *Nothofagus* trees in montane forests. A cool growing species that loves strong light, water and plenty of air movement, but will not tolerate continued hot weather. Yellow green thick pseudobulbs and bright green upright leathery leaves, and can flower on a relatively small plant. Flowers are a light green and are filled in, can open fairly flat, lasting up to 10 weeks. Labellum can be peppered with spots or stripes. Some have different fragrances.

Dendrobium finisterrae

Growing from 1300 to 2100m in the montane forests as an epiphyte in expose conditions on upper branches. Loves good light, water and plenty of air movement. From the 'Hairy Mary' clan this has flowers that do not open flat, however they are spectacularly covered in thick hairs right down over the ovary. Flowers last for weeks.

Dendrobium forbesii

Growing from 900 to 1700m in the PNG montane forests as an epiphyte. This is one of my favourites. A large robust species with definite club shaped pseudobulbs, and large leathery leaves. Whilst the inflorescences are relatively short there are 8 to 15 white to light green crystalline flowers that are large, 70mm, and long lasting. Another flower that has very hairy ovaries. Loves good light, water and plenty of air movement.

Dendrobium polysema

From eastern PNG growing from 1200 to 1900m in the PNG montane forests as an epiphyte, and into the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu from sea level to 1000m. This is a medium to large heavy epiphyte. It has large thick club like pseudobulbs that are covered in papery bracts that get filled with water. It is essential that this water be replaced with fresh by heavy watering. Eventually the bracts can be removed. It has large leathery leaves. The flowers are variable but are spectacularly spotted, with a lovely lime-green pollen cap. This is very hairy on the backs of the sepals and ovary. The flowers are very long lasting and in nature this species can flower all year round.

Dendrobium rhodostictum

Growing from 800 to 1200m in the PNG montane forests as an epiphyte and at terrestrial on steep well-drained

***Dendrobium* Aussie's Pixie**
(*aberrans* x *convolutum*)

slopes of moss covered limestone. This is a smaller species with thinner pseudobulbs with flowers that tend to nod. The flowers on a large plant are spectacular, usually pure crystalline white with a violet edge and spotting to the labellum. These can be from 60 to 90mm across, are fragrant and last from 6-8 weeks in winter and spring. By the way there is a very good reason for the plants to nod as in their environment with torrential rain every day the flowers would spoil if facing upright.

Dendrobium tapiniense

Growing from 1800 to 2400m in the Central Province, in the Tapini area of PNG. It grows high in the trees with cool nights and warm days with constant rainfall and high humidity. Here in Sydney it grows easily with the same conditions as my *Dendrobium speciosum*. It loves strong light, water and plenty of air movement so hang it high. The flowers, 3 to 15, are nothing short of spectacular and are extremely rigid with heaps of texture, and last for 3-4 months. Some fabulous hybrids will be made with this.

I suppose that over the years I have been seen as a species 'nut' as I have actively encouraged more growing and benching of species plants. But here it would be remiss of me not to mention one of my favourite plants, and yes it's a hybrid.

Phil Spence has been growing orchids for over 50 years and has hybridised thousands of orchids and registered some hundreds. This one in one of his best, ***Dendrobium* Gerald McCraith**. Phil has been interested in the *Latouria* Section of Dendrobiums from PNG and Irian Jaya for well over 30 years. In 1985 he realised the potential of two magnificent but not often seen species. ***Dendrobium engae***, which came from Wabag in the Enga Province of PNG described by Tom Reeve in *The Orchadian* in 1979, and ***Dendrobium convolutum***, which came from Fichhafen in the Morobe Province of PNG, originally described by Rolf from a plant sent to him by F. Sander. This is a slender growing *Latouria* that comes from a coastal region but can grow up to 50m in altitude. Generally it likes it a little warmer and lesser amount of light. The pseudobulbs are up to 30cm with large dark green leaves. It's the flowers that makes this spectacular, apple green with a labellum that can be so suffused with dark blood-plum purple that is it is often mistaken for black.

In early 1985 Phil crossed the above two plants and on 9th July 1985 the first seeds germinated in the flask. With every year passing and more of these plants flowering Phil realised what a consistently good flowering plant had been created. He decided it would be fitting that such a magnificent plant be named to honour an eminent person associated with orchids in Australia for over half a century, Gerald McCraith OAM, FAOC, who passed away last year at the age of 100.

A plant that in the initial stages probably will grow quicker in a cold glass house rather than the bushhouse. However, this is a plant that will grow and thrive in the bushhouse. Once it gets to a size it multiplies rapidly. On my plant it has put on 23 pseudobulbs in the last 3 years. This is a plant that will make a specimen and a dazzling one at that. Like a lot of the *Latouria* Dendrobiums it has many nodes to flower off and will do this repeatedly for many years so you tend to get a display of flowers all over the plant. As well as this it can flower at any time of the year.

Dendrobium speciosum Spectacular

& Australian Orchid Species and Hybrid Show 2010

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(Ted & Winsome Walmsley and ANOS Mid North Coast Group)

This premier event will follow closely after the 6th Australasian Native Orchid Conference & Show in Newcastle providing all conference attendees as well as others an ideal opportunity to see a massed display of some of the best speciosums in the country as well as a range of other Australian species and hybrids of superb quality. Definitely a must on your list of orchid activities for this year. All welcome to exhibit and judging will be by an all ANOS panel. Monetary prizes and trophies will be awarded.

Interstate entries are encouraged with a prize for the most travelled orchid.

Dates: Fri 3rd Sept 10am to 4pm
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Location: 57 Spooners Avenue, Greenhills via Kempsey.

Details: Electronic copy of brochure with locality map, show schedule and associated events available by e-mailing John Zietsch at jzi01935@bigpond.net.au OR contact Ted Walmsley on (02) 6562 7150 or Lloyd Edwards on (02) 6556 9766.

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AOR 025

Picture a plant with over 20 inflorescences carrying from 8 to 15 flowers per raceme. Flowers that are 50mm flat, well filled in and a brilliant 'Granny Smith' apple green and an almost black labellum. Now picture that plant with flowers in show-bench condition for over 3 months! This is what you have with this plant. To top this off most of the original clones have been awarded an Award of Merit as was ours (*Dendrobium* Gerald McCraith 'Bill' AM/AOC) in 2003. The more recent plants that have been remade since the original batch have been made with a *Dendrobium convolutum* that has a 'blacker' labellum than the original.

If you are looking for plants handling a wide temperature range - that will flower over the summer months, don't need a glasshouse, look great and can go to meetings for 3 to 5 months, then you can hardly go past some PNG species and hybrids. Good growing!

Bill Dobson
Elanbee Orchids
Cromer, NSW
Email: bdobson@optusnet.com.au
Website: http://members.optusnet.com.au/bdobson/

***Dendrobium* Gerald McCraith 'Bill'**

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AOR 052

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For further information please contact Conference Secretary peterden52@bigpond.com or phone Greg Hannah 0411340570

Above: Original painting of ***Dendrobium canaliculatum*** by Cary Polis

Growing *Dendrobium canaliculatum* in Cooler Climates

by Cary Polis

Dendrobium canaliculatum is one of my absolute favourite orchids, but in our environment in the Sydney region can be very tricky to grow. Basically it is a tropical lowland orchid whose range in Queensland extends from North Queensland as far south as Rockhampton on the Tropic of Capricorn. I find it to be a particularly rewarding orchid but I do have to be quite careful how I grow it.

In the growing season it will respond to copious amounts of watering and feeding but by Winter (May) I keep it dry and allow it to get as much light as possible. I also find that the most foolproof way to grow it is on a mount and I find that the best mount is just a piece of hardwood (fence paling is ideal). Even in summer, this orchid does not like to stay wet for any length of time.

I grow my plants in a heated glasshouse and I aim for a minimum of no less than 12 degrees Celsius. Also, I have just removed the shadecloth as well so as to maximise the light intensity and even in summer I always have the plants up high. In late April, some of them are already starting to show nodes beginning to swell indicating that the inflorescences are initiating. These plants will stay dry now until late winter/early spring when they will be watered very sparingly. The emergence of actual buds is a good guide as to when you can give some water.

These plants are fantastic to see in the wild. They can be very hard to see at first but once you see the first one they seem to be everywhere at times. They invariably seem to grow on paperbarks (*Melaleuca* sp.), usually on ones that are sparse and spindly and in the dry season you wonder how these plants are surviving and yet the canaliculatums look absolutely terrific flowering their heads off on these trees. The other thing that strikes me about *Dendrobium canaliculatum* is how variable it actually is with a huge range of colour from very light yellow all the way through to chocolate. Also, vegetative forms vary tremendously from very short ones around the Cooktown area to quite tall forms in other areas.

Although small, the flowers are very beautiful with their antelope petals and beautiful colours and markings, and they all seem to vary, if only slightly. So, as you can see, even though it sounds like a fair bit of trouble, I think it is well worth persevering with this orchid.

(Photos taken *in situ* by David Banks, near Mt Garnet, North Queensland). ■

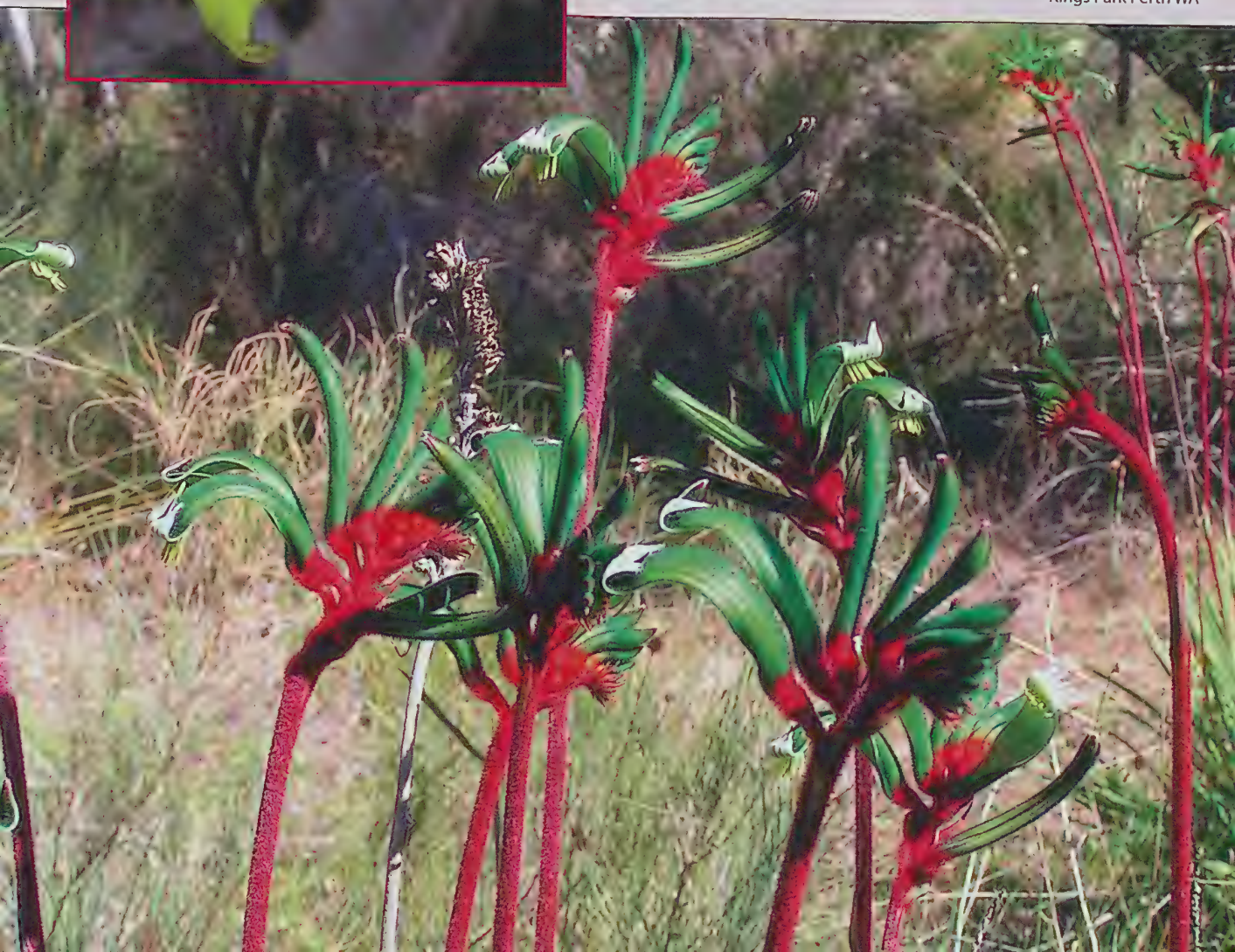
Cary Polis
President,
Manly Warringah Orchid Society
Email: carypolis@optusnet.com.au

This is a newly registered hybrid (2009) made by Jenny Walsh from New Zealand – as *Dendrobium* Womad.
It is a hybrid between *Dockrillia fuliginosa* (as *Dendrobium fuliginosum*) from New Guinea and the Australian *Dendrobium tetragonum*. This cross was initially made by Darryl Smedley (with different parents) but was never registered by him. It also has a very unusual growth habit!
Plant: Jenny Walsh, Photo: David Banks

Right: ***Banksia coccinea***
Albany WA

Left: ***Caladenia flava***
Carrabungup Nature Reserve WA

Below: ***Anigozanthos manglesii***
Kings Park Perth WA



Caladenia eminens
(hybrid)
Tenterden WA

Caladenia chapmanii
Cape Naturaliste WA

19th AOC Conference & Show - *"Wild About Orchids"* Perth, Western Australia: 10th to 16th September 2012

The organisers are compiling an email database for the forthcoming 19th Australian Orchid Conference, 2012 to be held in Perth, Western Australia in 2012. Please email us (aocconference@dodo.com.au) if you wish to receive our updates from time to time regarding this Conference and related tour activities.

The web site for the 19th Australian Orchid Conference, 2012 is now up and running at....

http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/19th_AOC_Conference.htm

It is of course early days as the conference is still some time away, but it is never too soon to be making your plans to visit Western Australia in 2012. It is early days for the 19th AOC Conference web site too and it will be updated as there are new developments. So far we have some items to stir your interest, with all the usual pages of contacts, subscribing to our e-Newsletter, and a page About Us, the hard working 19th AOC Conference Committee. Here you can put faces to the mysterious volunteers who toil behind the scenes.

The "What's New" page gives you the very latest in our thinking, including our intention to make application for the 22nd World Orchid Conference, which will be held in 2017, plus our proposed attendance at the 20th WOC in Singapore in 2011 to promote both Perth 2012 and the 22nd WOC application.

Information regarding the 19th AOC Conference venue; Lecture Program, our vendors, and a host of other interesting facts will be posted as they come to hand, so please bookmark the home page for future reference. Future pages will bring you information regarding accommodation, orchid and wildflower tours, registration, the schedule, home visits, what to see in Perth and Western Australia and a proposed gallery of Western Australia's unique native orchids.

Should you have any queries or questions regarding the 19th AOC Conference please feel free to email us or write to us at, The Secretary, 19th Australian Orchid Conference, P.O. Box 576 Morley 6062 Western Australia.

(***Editor's Note:*** I attended the WA Orchid Spectacular event of 2005 and it was a wonderful, friendly and well-organised conference with some outstandingly well grown and flowered orchids on display. The native orchids and wildflowers are just breathtaking at this time of year, and that alone well worth the time and expense spent travelling to Western Australia. *DPB*)

Tony Watkinson
Webmaster
19th AOC Conference 2012
Email: waos@iinet.net.au

No one's going to pinch those orchids!

Orchids protected by Crocodiles!

The Johnstone River Crocodile Farm is owned and operated by Mick and Margaret Tabone who have lived in Innisfail, North Queensland all their lives, and between them have 50 years experience with crocodiles. On display are 3500 crocodiles which are mostly estuarine crocs ranging in size from 30 centimetres to a huge 5.2 metre monster called Gregory who weighs 1200 kilograms.

There are also freshwater crocodiles so you can compare the difference between the two. Visitors are taken on an educational guided tour explaining how crocodiles breed, survive, and how by farming them they are actually conserving these magnificent reptiles.

In the tropical garden setting, the Tabone's have incorporated a lot of epiphytic orchids into the landscape, with many species and hybrid "softcane" dendrobiums and vandas established on palm trees and other suitable hosts. In this climate these orchids thrive without any special care, and bloom profusely, as can be seen in the photos. This further highlights the use of orchids as maintenance-free garden plants.

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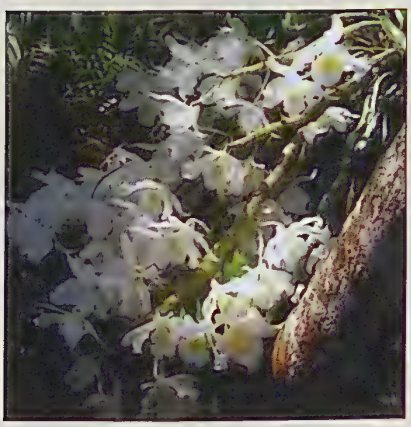
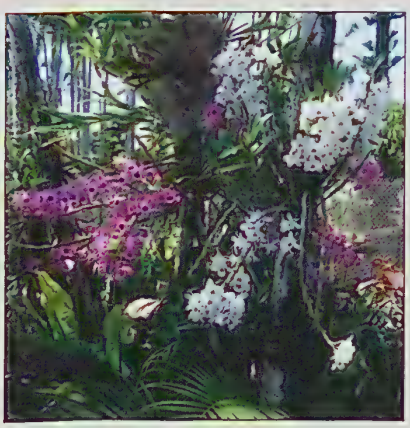


***Dendrobium* Beautiful Egg**

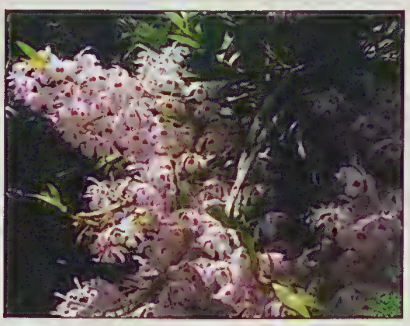


An epiphytic garden of "softcane" ***Dendrobium*** hybrids and elkhorn ferns

***Dendrobium* Star Sapphire**

***Dendrobium* Hagoromo 'Spring Fuji'**

***Dendrobium* Golden Blossom**



An old "softcane" ***Dendrobium*** hybrid

Dendrobium lindleyi (syn. *D. aggregatum*)

Dendrobium nobile

Specimen ***Dendrobium*** hybrid protected by a couple of friends

Vanda intergeneric hybrid

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AOR 037

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AOR005

Stanhopea hernandezii **is a high elevation epiphytic and lithophytic species from Western Mexico. Rudolf Jenny will be publishing the most current *Stanhopea* monograph later this year, that will provide an excellent guide to their history, identification, classification and cultivation.**

Plant: Tinonee Orchids, Photo: D.P. Banks

Pescatorera klabochorum in cultivation

Pescatorea klabochorum and the brothers Klaboch

by Rudolf Jenny

The species within the genus *Pescatorea* belong to some of the showiest orchids from Central and South America. *Pescatorea klabochorum* is a rather typical species for the genus and it is dedicated to the two brothers Eduard and Franz Klaboch, together with their famous Uncle Benedict Roezl who were active and well known orchid collectors.

***Pescatorea klabochorum* Rchb.f.** *Gardeners' Chronicle* new series, 11:684.1879

***Pescatorea klabochorum* var. *burfordiensis* Rchb.f.** *Gardeners' Chronicle* new series, 12:167.1879

***Pescatorea klabochorum* var. *ornatissimum* Rchb.f.** *Gardeners' Chronicle* new series, 21:76.1884

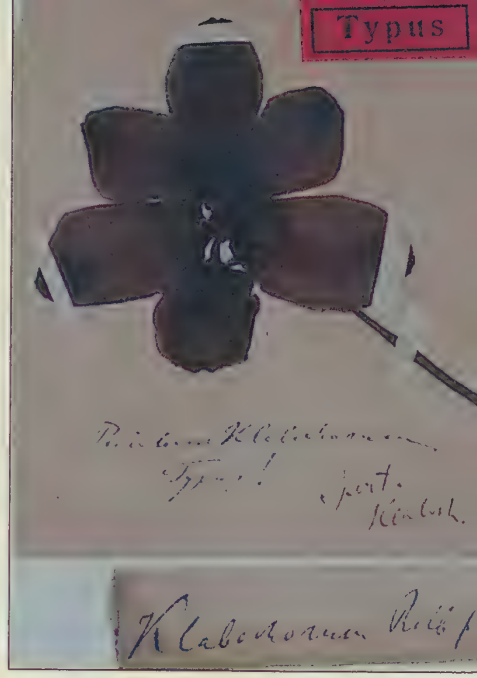
***Zygopetalum klabochorum* Rchb.f.** *Gardeners' Chronicle* new series, 11:684.1879

Pescatorea klabochorum was described by Heinrich Gustav Reichenbach in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* in 1879. The author got dried material from the nursery of Veitch, the plants where originally collected by Franz Klaboch. Reichenbach wrote: "...it is one of the best discoveries of the most recent orchid victim, our good late Franz Klaboch, who wished that it should bear his brother's and his name at once." Reichenbach had only one dried flower, and he had to boil it up (to soften and partly rehydrate it) to make a drawing and his comment is very interesting: "... I never in my life saw a softened flower grow to such extent before my eyes as this, and now I have a careful sketch at hand with measurements of the soft flower, and the once much smaller flower in a dry state." This particular flower is still in the herbarium of Reichenbach in Vienna (no.49867).

Reichenbach was one of the very few taxonomists who succeeded in describing the same species based on the same type in the same publication under two different names, at the end of the Latin description he also named it *Zygopetalum klabochorum*. This binomial is today treated as a synonym of *Pescatorea klabochorum* and is not to be confused with *Zygopetalum klabochii*, described by Reichenbach in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* in 1885 after a plant from the collection of C. Dorman in England. Schlechter recombined *Zygopetalum klabochii* in 1920 in *Feddes Repertorium Beihefte* to *Kefersteinia klabochii* (Rchb.f.) Schlechter. In the famous "Scrap Books" of John Day we find a perfect watercolour drawing of *Pescatorea klabochorum*, dated from 24th September 1878 – that means before the formal first description by Reichenbach - Day bought the plant at the auction of one of Klaboch's orchid collections at Stevens on 26th June 1878 as *Pescatorea dayana*. When he saw the first flower, he sent it to Reichenbach who determined it first as *Pescatorea backhouseana* and later in 1879 as *Pescatorea klabochorum*.

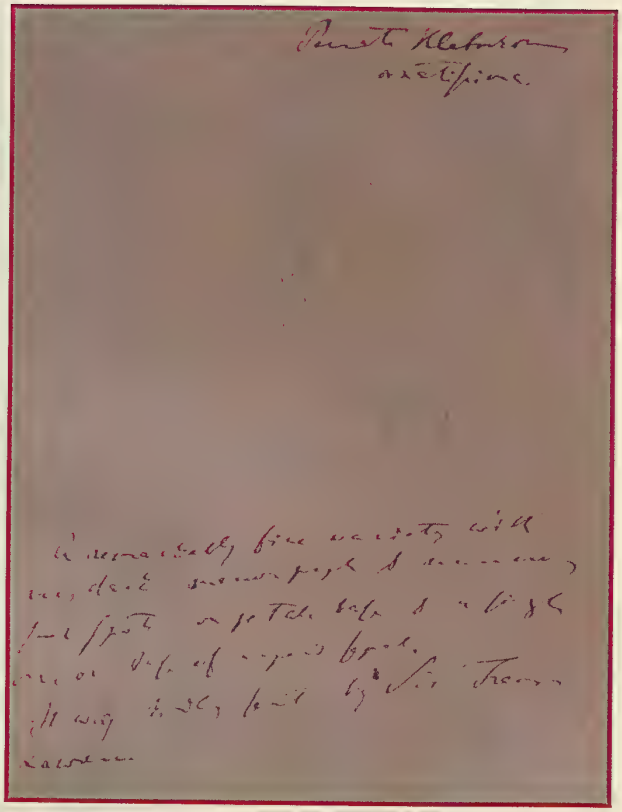
Reichenbach described in *Gardeners' Chronicle* in the same year also *Pescatorea klabochorum* var. *burfordiensis*, based on a fresh flower he got in July 1879 from the collection of Trevor Lawrence in Burford Lodge, England. In 1884 Reichenbach added in *Gardeners' Chronicle Pescatorea klabochorum* var. *ornatissimum* to the list of synonyms, also this variety is based on a single fresh flower from the collection of Trevor Lawrence in England. Reichenbach made drawings of both flowers before he dried them, flowers and drawings are today in his herbarium in Vienna.

The first drawing of the species originates from the journal *L'Illustration Horticole* in 1881, the drawing was made by P. de Pannemacker after a plant from the collection of the nursery Linden in Ghent, the accompanying text was written by Reichenbach himself. A second coloured drawing of our species was published in 1882 in the second edition of *Paxton's Flower Garden*, the plate is missed in the first edition of 1850 – 1853, the species was not yet known at this time and the article in the second edition is not from Lindley and/or Paxton, as both died 1865, long before *Pescatorea klabochorum* was known. The plate was made after a plant from the collection of W. Cobb, Sydenham, England. A third drawing followed 1882 in the famous *Orchid Album* by



Above: *Pescatorea klabochorum*
Type of the species (49867) in the Reichenbach herbarium in Vienna

Below: *Pescatorea klabochorum*,
drawing by John Day, dated 24/9/1878
(ex slide R. Jenny, with the kind permission of the Director and Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
[copyright Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew])



Above: ***Pescatorea klabochorum* var. *ornatissimum*,** drawing of the flower from T. Lawrence (no.49866)

Left: ***Pescatorea klabochorum* var. *burfordiensis*,** drawing of the flower from T. Lawrence (no.49869)

Robert Warner, Benjamin Samuel Williams and Thomas Moore. The illustration was made after a plant in the collection of the Victoria and Paradise nursery of B.S. Williams, Moore wrote the text and he was the first mentioning the synonymy of Reichenbach's *Zygopetalum klabochorum* with *Pescatorea klabochorum*. In 1890 a perfect drawing of *Pescatorea klabochorum* was published by G. Sommer in the German journal *Gartenflora*, together with a reprint of a flower dissection published earlier by Pfitzer in 1889 in *Die natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien*.

A spectacular plant like this species was naturally also illustrated in the famous *Reichenbachia*, published by the nursery Sander in St. Albans in England. The plate – published in 1894 as *Zygopetalum klabochorum* – was printed being a drawing by Harry Moon, with the text from Robert Allen Rolfe. The drawing was made after a plant from the collection of the Royal Gardens Hannover-today known as Herrenhäuser Gärten – under its director Hermann Wendland. Moon painted a plant with visible pseudobulbs and it is questionable whether he really had a plant of *Pescatorea* and not an *Odontoglossum* or *Miltoniopsis* in his hands, although the flowers are clearly belonging to the genus *Pescatorea*, they certainly do not belong to the depicted plant, even more it is questionable whether the flowers represent *Pescatorea klabochorum* and not *Pescatorea dayana*. The last illustration shown here is from Alfred Celestin Cogniaux' and Alphonse Goossens' *Dictionnaire Iconographique des Orchidées*, the plate was made by Goossens after a plant in the collection of Augustine André Peeters in St. Gilles-Brussels, Belgium, and was published in 1900. Most probably the illustrated plant was *Pescatorea dayana* and not *Pescatorea klabochorum*, as both species are very similar in colouration, the main difference is the surface of the lip.

Still *Pescatorea klabochorum* is a relatively seldom seen plant in collections and rather often the species is cultivated labeled as *Pescatorea dayana* or *Pescatorea backhouseana*.

Pescatorea vs. *Pescatoria*

A small detail at the end: the generic name is written correctly ***Pescatorea*** and **not** – as used in several recent publications and most unfortunately in the Kew World Monocot Checklist - *Pescatoria*. It is true that Reichenbach published the genus in 1852 in *Botanische Zeitung* as *Pescatoria*, but this is an orthographic error and according to the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature such orthographic errors can be corrected. Reichenbach dedicated the genus to Jean-Pierre Pescatore (and not Pescatori), so the correct spelling is without any doubt *Pescatorea*. The name of Pescatore was also used as an epithet (species name) in other species, like *Lueddemannia pescatorei*, and in this case Reichenbach spelled it correctly, if the spelling *Pescatoria* would be accepted, all epithets dedicated to Pescatore would

Drawing of ***Pescatorea klabochorum*** from *L'Illustration Horticole*, 1881

Drawing of ***Pescatorea klabochorum*** from the second edition of *Paxton's Flower Garden*, 1882

have to be changed for the sake of consistency in nomenclature. Reichenbach himself was obviously aware of the wrong spelling, when he described *Pescatorea klabochrum* - and other species of the same genus after 1852 - he did it in the correct way, with the intended spelling. Jean-Pierre Pescatore was born in Luxembourg in 1793. In 1834 he moved to France and became a Banker after he earned a fortune in the tobacco-business, as it is said by illegal activities. When Louis-Philippe was overthrown during the revolution of 1848, Pescatore already had one of the largest and finest collections of orchids in Europe at Chateau de la Celle-Saint-Cloud. He also was founder of the Foundation and Museum Pescatore in Luxembourg. Three years after the revolution he obviously was involved in the financing of the return of Napoleon III. In 1849 he showed several orchids in Paris, in the same year he showed also plants at the Spring Exhibition in Paris. In 1852 he won the first prize for plant amateur collectors and 1853 he became President of the Société d'Horticulture de Seine-et-Oise.

Pescatore was a regular and excellent customer of Linden in Ghent and Jean Jules Linden had at times a very close relationship with Pescatore, the very famous iconography *Pescatorea, Iconographie des Orchidées* (and not *Pescatoria*!) published by Jean-Jules Linden between 1854 and 1860 is named after Pescatore. (An English version of this book – *Pescatorea – Iconography of Orchids (1854-1860)* was published in November 1994 by Naturalia Publications, limited to 1500 numbered copies.)

Pescatorea klabochorum is dedicated to the brothers Eduard and Franz Klaboch and their names are always mentioned in close connections to the famous orchid-hunter Benedict Roezl. Eduard and Fraz (Frantisek) were the sons of Anna Klabochova, sister of Benedict Roezl. Eduard Klaboch, the elder of the two sons was born on 14th December 1852, Franz the younger was born on 19th April 1861. Father Klaboch died in 1862 and left a widow with four children in a very difficult financial situation. The family moved to the home of Anna's parents and it was Vincenc Roezl, father of Anna and Benedict who taught the two boys the gardening trade. Three of Anna's five sisters lived already in Mexico, invited by their brother Benedict. In 1869 Eduard started his practice in the gardens of Count Bentrak in Fridava and within a year he has moved to Clam-Gardens in Vienna. His uncle Benedict Roezl has been doubtlessly well informed about his career, in 1871 he wrote to Eduards mother: "if Eduard wants to travel, let him go to Santecomapan, Mexico, and remain there as long as he learns Spanish. I will then pick him up." So Eduard left Vienna in July 1871, boarded a ship in Hamburg and reached Veracruz in October of the same year. In spring 1873 he should have met his uncle Benedict in Mexico. In April 1872 Benedict Roezl was back in Europe after almost 17 years of adventurous life on the American continent.

In spite of the fact that he was occupied with negotiations with nurseries and orchid enthusiasts all over Europe, he found the time to visit his parents and the family of his sister. So he met Franz, the younger of the two brothers for the first time and - because also Franz was educated in gardening by his grandfather

Left: ***Pescatorea klabochorum***
from *Gartenflora*,1890

Vincenc – it didn't take much effort to convince the boy to follow him. Franz left his home together with his uncle in early 1872 to England and from there to the United States. Until the end of the year 1872 both travellers collected plants and seeds, and then they left the United States for Mexico and later to Panama. Benedict was well aware of the talents as collector of young Franz. In March 1873 they met Eduard in Mexico and continued their travel together. Later Franz stayed in Mexico City to be responsible for sorting and the care of commercial plants, Benedict and Eduard went to Bolivia and Peru. The yield of this short expedition was tremendous and Benedict decided to bring the plants back to London by himself and left America in April 1874. Franz was already in Mexico and Eduard joined him there.

In the second half of 1874 Eduard and Franz went together to Panama, Colombia and Ecuador to collect plants. They reported the results of their expeditions in regular intervals to Benedict Roezl who retired in 1875 and settled in Prague. Most of the letters from this time to Roezl were written in German by Eduard Klaboch who was empowered by Roezl to take care of his property in Mexico. During one of the trips Franz had fallen from a rock and as he hurt his leg badly, Eduard organised his transport back to Mexico, but attempts to heal the leg were not successful and this may have been the reason for Franz to return in autumn of 1878 to Europe, together with a large collection of orchids, including one thousand plants of *Masdevallia chimaera* (now *Dracula chimaera*). Not a single plant reached Europe alive! Franz had tried before to introduce the species alive in England, always without success. After 4 months recovery Franz decided before the end of the year 1878 to return to Central America, his last letter was reportedly sent on 3rd January 1879. Three weeks later the horticultural press announced that Franz (Frantisek) Klaboch had died on 24th January 1879 in Inquilla, Oaxaca, Mexico. The cause of his death was given by experts as a fit of yellow fever. Together with a short article in *Gardeners' Chronicle* in March 1879 a portrait of Franz Klaboch was published.

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Pescatorea klabochorum from *Reichenbachia*, 1894

Above: ***Pescatorea klabochorum***
from Cogniaux, *Dictionnaire Iconographique des Orchidées*, 1900

Benedict tried to hand over his business and contacts to Eduard Klaboch and he also enlisted him as contributor to his magazine *Flora* which was published in 4 volumes between 1883 and 1886 and which was the first botanical journal in Czechoslovakia. Eduard Klaboch made his first business trip to Europe in 1879 and based on contracts with nurseries in England he collected plants in South and Central America until 1884.

His uncle Benedict Roezl passed away on 14th October 1885 in Prague. Eduard got the message after his return to Mexico and he decided to return to Europe and to stay there. But already in 1888 he got enough contracts and financial help to start another collection trip for orchids, he went to Panama, Peru and Costa Rica, and naturally also visited his relatives in Mexico. Benedict Roezl decided in his Last Will to spend a large part of his money to the support of the journal *Flora* and so Eduard could not hope to get enough financial back-up to stop travelling and settle down in Europe. By the end of 1891 he had collected enough money from the sale of several very valuable orchid collections and decided to settle in Prague, stop travelling and to build up a gardening business. Earlier the same year on 4th July he married Bozena Kolinkova, the daughter of a wheel-maker from Donin. His first son, named after his father Eduard, was born on 16th April 1892. By the age of 19 he had four children and the descendents of his second son Ladislav are still living in Prague. Eduard Klaboch died in Smichov on 22nd August 1915 at the age of 62.

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Pescatorea klabochorum from *Orchid Album*, 1882

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– NADĚJE BENEDIKTA ROEZLA

doru. To se však již k němu a Benediktu Roezlovi připojil i bratr Eduard, se kterým se konečně v březnu 1873 setkali u příbuzných. Po několika týdnech společných cest se však Benedikt Roezl rozhodl ponechat Františka v Mexiko City, kde jej pověřil úředním a zajišťením komerčních rostlin, a sám s Eduardem se vypravil na nové sběry do Bolivie a Peru. Tato poměrně krátká, ale náročná cesta přes vrcholky And byla pro Benedikta Roezla natolik výnosná, že se rozhodl svou obrovskou zásilku rostlin osobně doprovázet do Londýna a v dubnu 1874 tak učinil. Eduard se zatím vrátil v Mexiku se svým bratrem a zotavoval se ze záchvatů zimnice, kterou se nakazil v Bolivii.

*František Klaboch, *1856, † 1879*
Orig. deponovány v SOA Louny

Benedikt Roezl se vrátil na americký kontinent již koncem července 1874, doprovázen tentokrát svým dalším synovcem Bohumilem Houdou, synem Evy Houdové. Jejich společná cesta započala v New Yorku a vedla napříč Spojenými státy. K břehům Mexika se dostali až počátkem prosince 1874 a je pravděpodobné, že právě tehdy si s bratry Klabochovými určili cíle svých následujících výprav. Zatímco Benedikt Roezl a mladý Houda se rozhodli zdolat sopku Colimu, vypravil se Eduard a František na cesty do Panamy, Columbie a Equadoru. Výsledky těchto cest pravidelně oznamovali Benediktu Roezlovi, zpočátku do jeho tábora pod Colimou, posléze do Mexika a nakonec do Prahy, kde se Benedikt Roezl v roce 1875 rozhodl usadit. Vzájemná korespondence z tohoto období je pak nesmírně vzácná a dosti obsáhlá. Je vedena v němčině, česky psané doplňky jsou vzácnou výjimkou. Většinu dopisů strýci Benediktovi psával Eduard Klaboch, kterého Benedikt Roezl společně s Bohumilem Houdou pověřil správou svého majetku v Mexiku. Jaký podíl měl ve společném podniku mladý František, nevíme. Zdá se, že na jeho intuici a talent při vyhledávání nových rostlin spoléhal strýc natolik, že jej nechtěl pevně vázat na jedno místo. Finanční vyrovnání za zaslané rostliny mu však pochopitelně poskytoval. Většinu cest do roku 1878 však nevykonával František sám, velmi často jej doprovázel i bratr Eduard. Jeho nejoblíbenějším terénem byla oblast Equnduru, kam mnohokrát zavítal. Při jedné z cest však spadl ze skály a zle si pohranil nohu. Přestože ho Eduard pomohl dopravit zpět do Mexika, nepodařilo se mu nohu doléčit. Rozhodl se tedy na podzim roku 1878 zajet do Evropy a odpočinout si u rodičů. Svůj pobyt v Čechách ukončil František Klaboch před koncem roku. Při zpáteční cestě napsal ještě dopis bratrovi z Londýna, po návratu na americký kontinent napsal i dalším příbuzným – cítil se zdráv a plánoval další cesty. Poslední dopis odeslal údajně 3. ledna 1879. Tři týdny poté oznámil světový zahradnický tisk, že František Klaboch dne 24. ledna 1879 v mexické Inquille náhle zemřel. Jako příčinu úmrtí posléze odborníci určili záchvat žluté zimnice. Nekrology a komentáře západoevropských časopisů zdůrazňovaly ztrátu, kterou tím jejich společenství utrpělo, a nešetřily slovy soustrasti nad mladým a talentovaným mužem. Františkovi Klabochovi bylo pouhých třiadvacet let.

V osmdesátých letech minulého století mohl představu Benedikta Roezla o úspěšném sběrateli a zdatném obchodníkovi naplnit již jen Eduard Klaboch, neboť Bohumil Houda, který zpočátku svým bratrancům Klabochům zdárně sekundoval, se právě v tomto období rozhodoval z rodinného podniku odejít. Na Eduarda se tedy Benedikt Roezl snažil přenést nejen své životní zkušenosti, ale i obchodní kontakty. Získal jej i jako přispěvovatele do Flory. Bohaté obchodní kontakty také přivábily Eduarda Klabocha častěji na starý kontinent. Svou první obchodní cestu podnikl již roku 1879, kdy navštívil Anglii a uzavřel zde zajímavé kontrakty. Ty jej vedly zpět do Střední a Latinské Ameriky, kde na území Equadoru sbíral až do roku 1883.

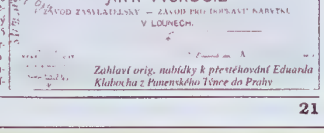
*Eduard Klaboch, *1852, † 1915*

Když se vrátil zpět do Mexika, zastihla jej tam zpráva o úmrtí Benedikta Roezla, který skonal 14. října 1885 v Praze. Strýcovo úmrtí bylo hlavním důvodem Eduardova návratu do vlasti i vážné mírnějšího rozhodnutí, že zde již zůstane na trvalo. Toto předsevzetí však vydrželo Eduardu Klabochovi pouhé tři roky. V roce 1889 využil výzvy a finančních prostředků svých anglických partnerů a vydal se hledat opět nové orchideje do Panamy, Peru a Kostariky. Pochopitelně, jako vždy nevynechal ani Mexiko, kde měl v té době již četné příbuzenstvo. Na náklady Angličanů se Eduard Klaboch vypravil do Ameriky ještě jednou, a i když už neposílal do Evropy tak četné zásilky jako jeho strýc, byly jeho cesty považovány za komerčně úspěšné. Budování vlastní existence bylo pro Eduarda Klabocha velmi důležité. Přes vážnost a úspěchy, kterých dosud dosáhl, nebyl rozhodně bohatý a na svůj díl ze strýcova dědictví nemohl příliš spoléhat. Sám Benedikt Roezl totiž ještě za svého života značnou část příjmů ze svého prosperujícího závodu věnoval na vydávání Flory, další směřovaly do podpůrného spolku Roezl. Faktický zůstatek jeho majetku nebyl tedy velký a podle poslední vůle B. Roezla byl ještě dělen mezi všechny blízké příbuzné.

Díky honorovaným cestám se však Eduard Klaboch počátkem devadesátých let dokonal určitého majetku a v roce 1891 byl již uváděn jako usedlý zahradník na Smíchově, byť s trvalým bydlištěm v Panenském Týnci. Roku 1891 se také rozhodl skoncovat se svým staromládeneckým a oženil se. 4. července 1891 uzavřel sňatek s Boženou Kolínkovou, dcerou mistra kovářského z Domina. Nevěsta bylo toho roku dvacet pět let, ženich byl o třináct let starší. Krátce po svatbě, 16. 4. 1892, se manželům narodil první syn, po otci Eduard. Holčička, po mamince Božena, přišla na svět o rok později, narodila se 9. 7. 1893, nedožila se však ani celého roku. Zemřela na zápal plic 26. 4. 1894. Po její smrti se rozhodl Eduard již neopouštět rodinu a cestování definitivně skoncovat. Od roku 1895 se věnoval pouze své živnosti a rodině. Dočkal se narození i tří dalších dětí. Další syn, Ladislav, se narodil 22. 5. 1896, a jeho bratr Zdeněk 21. dubna 1898. Jako poslední se oběma manželům narodila holčička. Děvčátko přišlo na svět 4. 12. 1903 a dostalo rodinné jméno Božena.

O svou rodinu se Eduard Klaboch bez mimořádných cest staral až do své smrti 22. srpna 1915, kdy skonal na Smíchově. Jeho matka Anna Klabochová jej v Panenském Týnci přežila téměř o dva roky. Zemřela 26. června 1917. *Pro Regiz (opět věnovala) dr. Marie Imbrová*

*) Přesná citace včetně pravopisných chyb.



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Záhlaví orig. nabídky k přestěhování Eduarda Klabocha z Panenského Týnce do Prahy

REGIZ 21

Above: Portraits of Franz (Frantisek) and Eduard Klaboch
(From Ladislav Klaboch, 4th generation descendent of Eduard Klaboch)

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Writing Orchid Names

In order that we may distinguish between different orchids, a nomenclatural system has been developed to facilitate this. The actual name is written in a number of parts and a precise format must be adhered to if accuracy is the aim. The first part describes the genus, the second the specific species within the genus and there may be a third part for a distinct botanical variety or a cultivar name to identify a special clone. These may even form a third and fourth part in special circumstances as will be shown later. This applies to all orchids and indeed all plants and animals.

The genus or generic name distinguishes between the various orchid genera or major orchid groups, e.g., *Paphiopedilum*, *Cattleya*, *Masdevallia*, etc., It is written in full and in italics and is commenced with a capital letter. As an alternative (where italics is not available) it may be written in normal type but must be underlined, e.g., Paphiopedilum, Cattleya, or Masdevallia. In common usage (and for hybrids only) these are often replaced with standard abbreviations and then become Paph., C. or Masd.

The second or specific name describes the actual species and is also written in italics but with a small first letter. So we have *Paphiopedilum insigne*, *Cattleya labiata* and *Masdevallia caesia*. It is also important to have the endings consistent, so that *Epidendrum cochleatum* or *Encyclea cochleata* is correct but not *Epidendrum cochleata* and the reverse. Again, Paphiopedilum insigne, Cattleya labiata and Masdevallia caesia is acceptable although italics are preferred.

At times a species may have a number of distinct and noteworthy varieties. These are added after the specific name with the abbreviation var. (for variety) in normal lower case between them and the specific name. Thus we have *Cymbidium lowianum* var. *l'ansonii* and *Dendrobium speciosum* var. *hillii*. Finally, to complete this naming process, a special clonal or cultivar name may be given to highlight a markedly superior clone. We then have *Cymbidium lowianum* var. *lowianum* 'Compte de Hemptine' which will generally be reduced to *Cymbidium lowianum* 'Compte de Hemptine'. The special clonal name is written in normal Roman print with upper and lower case as shown and is enclosed in **single** quotes, not double.

With hybrids, the generic or combined generic name is written first as with species and this is followed by the RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) registered grex name and then in single quotes by the particular clonal name. Thus we have, *Cymbidium* Sarah Jean 'Helen' or *Sophrolaeliocattleya* Dream Cloud 'Delight'. These are generally reduced to *Cym.* Sarah Jean 'Helen' or *Slc.* Dream Cloud 'Delight' in common usage. Note that *Slc.* or *Sophrolaeliocattleya* is written as one word and the upper case is only used with the first letter. *Sophrolaeliocattleya* may be crossed with *Brassavola* which would give the possible name of *Sophrolaeliobrassocattleya* but thankfully this is given a new name *Potinara*. There are several other examples where multiple generic combinations are reduced to a single name, e.g., *Wilsonara*, *Colmunara* etc. You will note that these end with *–ara*.

Science and botany attempts to be exact and ordered in its application and this is the correct way to write orchid names. It is a pleasure to see words and conventions applied correctly. ■

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AOR177

Glasshouse housing Paphiopedilums

Orchid Growing in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales

by Robert Giles

We moved down to our forty hectare property in the Southern Highlands after the sale of our retail site (Wondabah Orchids) in Carlingford. The first problem was no water supply, so four x 10,000 litre tanks were built under the middle bench to catch the rain falling on the glasshouse roof and we had to have gutters especially made for the glasshouse to catch the rain.

Heating was supplied by a conventional diesel boiler with under bench hot water pipes that could easily maintain 15°C even though the outside temperatures could go down to as low as -10°C. We were told by one leading grower that we could not grow Paphiopedilums (slipper orchids) as they were subtropical plants. But it is a lot colder in Holland and the Dutch are huge growers, remember you can grow *Phalaenopsis* in Hobart but cannot grow Odontoglossums in Darwin.

The light was something we had to come to grips with. Particularly the percentage of shade cloth required as it was more intense due to the altitude. The most difficult problem we had to conquer was the lack of humidity, probably similar humidity as Adelaide as we were at an altitude of over 700 metres. This was overcome by increasing watering to about three times more frequently during summer than we did in Sydney. The water in the under bench tanks did little to improve humidity and as we could water in February (end of summer) and the foliage would be dry in 30 minutes.

We discovered after the first year that we did not need the diesel boiler, as the water tanks under the middle bench (that were from end to end of the glass house) became a huge heat trap, and with a 2kw fan heater to circulate the air on frosty nights only (and the addition

of a Marix liner in the winter) we could maintain positive temperatures which was more than sufficient to grow complex hybrid Paphiopedilums and Odontoglossums. The summer was not a problem as the water in the under bench tank absorbed some heat and the day temperatures are similar to Sydney City temperatures and due to the lack of humidity water evaporation also cooled the house. The worry of how long the tank water would last in a drought was not the problem that we first thought, as we were using a sprinkler system that used half the amount of hand watering and the water under the bench we discovered was more than a year's supply even if it did not rain.

We grew mainly complex hybrid Paphiopedilums very successfully there for twelve years and then we decided to move into Bowral as we had completed our time of farming life. The move brought up new problems with nobody to solve them except ourselves. The first problem was to get a sixteen metre glasshouse passed by council as it did not pass covenants on out buildings; this was solved by calling the glass house a garden room conservatory and joining it as an annex directly to the house. We did not want to put in an under bench water tank as we had put in a 45,000 litre underground fed from the house roof and we also had town water supply, this meant that we had to heat as the winter frosts were just as severe. We decided after some investigation that the town gas supply was the easiest and we used a Rinnae 16 instantaneous domestic hot water heater upgraded to 65°C, a small Grunfos hot water pump and 60 metres of high pressure plastic water pipe that was hot in under three minutes for heat distribution under bench and this has proved to be highly successful and we now maintain a minimum of 8°C which is enough for *Miltoniopsis*, Native Dendrobiums, Odontoglossums, Primary Hybrid (and mottled-leafed Paphiopedilums), etc to grow very successfully.

We now mainly grow complex hybrid Paphiopedilums (about 7000 in all) and have changed the potting mix to coconut chips mixed (double soaked to remove salt, even if it states salt free) with 10% P500 perlite plus ½ to 1 percent dry fertiliser in our case 50% Perrymans Blood & Bone and 50% Hoof & Horn meal (Feathers & Fins is a good substitute for hoof & horn) and 1% Selgrit (Limestone).

It must be allowed that winter comes about four weeks earlier and finishes four weeks later in the Highlands (a –6°C frost on 28th October one year) this means that the flowers appear earlier but if you don't heat sufficiently they flower later. The glass house has full length roof ventilation but we discovered that we also needed wall ventilation to get cooling Air flow in summer.

We have had very few pests except for slugs & mice that come from the very large paddock at our back fence, Multicrop snail pellets for the slugs and Talon for the mice have both proved very successful. Occasional fungus spots are controlled by Triforine or Yates Rose spray and both leave no residue on the leaves.

Seedling Paphiopedilums on centre bench

Removing Paphiopedilums from flasks can be very successful by following these procedures. We use a 125mm Port Pot filled to within a centimetre of the top with standard coarser adult plant potting mix including dry fertiliser and then top with either very fine bark with 10%-20% screened *Sphagnum* moss to enable rapid water gain or Coco Peat depending on your standard mix. Coco peat will have a higher damp off rate than bark but can grow faster. Remove plants from the flask into a dish of cool tap water then tease apart and place of very wet newspaper that you can cover. If some plants won't separate leave them and plant 2-3 together. When finished potting for the day or completion of deflasking spray plants and surface of the mix with Zineb or Mancozeb. A follow-up spray one week later and another two weeks later and then as required. Fertilise with liquid fertiliser as your adult plants. After one year they generally are ready to go into 65mm pots and the smaller plants are either returned to a community pot or put 2-3 together to a 65mm pot. Next year the 65mm is potted up to a 100mm pot some even might flower in this size pot. Then the next season they are put into the largest pot we use a 125mm lace bottom pot and this is the pot they have to flower in or be discarded. We found several years ago when we potted the largest seedlings from the 100mm and put them in 140mm pots and the smaller plants into 125mm that **all** the smaller plants over took the plants in the larger pots.

I have joined the small Southern Highland Orchid Society that meet in the Uniting Church Hall on the corner of Albert & Alice Streets in Mittagong on the 3rd Wednesday of the month and visitors are always welcome. I will also be selling slipper orchids under the banner of "Robert Giles Orchids" at the Cymbidium Club of Australia's 2010 National Orchid Extravaganza being held at the Dural Recreation Centre, NSW from 6th – 8th August 2010. ■

Robert Giles
Email: r.j.giles@bigpond.com

***Paphiopedilum* Jan Giles**

***Paphiopedilum* Jan Giles** (group of seedlings)

***Paphiopedilum* (Bournhill x Braidwood)**

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Bulbophyllum maquilingense Ames and Quisumbing

by Jim Cootes

One of my great loves in the botanical world are the miniature-growing orchid species. In the genus *Bulbophyllum* there are many taxa that fit into this category. I particularly like those species that have short rhizomes, and because of this, a beautiful specimen-sized plant can be grown in a 100mm pot or on a small piece of tree-fern.

Members of *Bulbophyllum* Section *Leptopus* include some of the most delightful species that can be found in nature. The plants are generally small in stature and a few have very brightly-coloured blooms that are eye-catching. *Bulbophyllum maquilingense* is one of the more unusual members in the section, and its hooded flowers are often a talking point at orchid society meetings.

I obtained my first plants of this species in the late 1980s whilst on one of my annual trips to the Philippines. I was walking around a nursery that specialises in Philippine native orchids, on the lookout for something different. As soon as I saw the small, neatly growing plants, I knew that I had to bring some back home to Sydney. A dozen plants were soon added to my plants for export. At the time I did not know what the species was, as the plants were not flowering (and that was back in the days when a plant could be imported as a *Bulbophyllum* sp.)

Happily for me, most of these plants survived the fumigation and quarantining procedures that have to be followed for imported plants. Several months later I noticed a few hair-like inflorescences arising from the pseudobulbs, and the opening of the blooms was waited for with hushed expectancy.

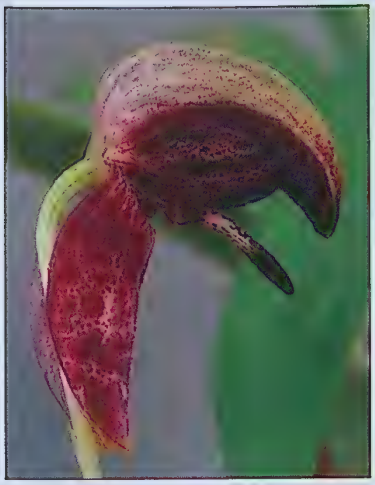
Luckily for me, when the blooms opened, I was readily able to identify this species, because it was already illustrated and described in *The Complete Writings of Dr. Eduardo A. Quisumbing on Philippine Orchids*, (Vol. 1, pages 177-178) edited by Dr. Helen Valmayor.

Above: *Bulbophyllum maquilingense* from east coast of Luzon (JC)

In my 2001 book *The Orchids of the Philippines* (Times Editions, Singapore) I stated that *Bulbophyllum maquilingense* was only known from the provinces of Laguna and Quezon. Since the publication of my book almost a decade ago, more knowledge has been shared and made available regarding the distribution of this (and several other) orchid species. I have received pictures from people throughout the Philippines of this species and I can confirm that *Bulbophyllum maquilingense* is now known to also occur in the Calayan Islands, to the north of the main island of Luzon; the island of Sibuyan in the central Philippines; and from the northern provinces of Mindanao, which is the second largest island in the Philippines. It is interesting to note that flowers from different islands vary somewhat in their colouration and the size of the plant.

Bulbophyllum maquilingense was named by Professor Oakes Ames and Dr. Eduardo Quisumbing in the *Philippine Journal of Science* in 1932. The specific epithet refers to Mount Makiling in Laguna province where the type specimens were collected. The plants are only small growing, reaching heights of only 60mm. The squarish pseudobulbs bear a single leathery leaf. Inflorescences are very thin, are usually longer than the leaves and bear a single bloom about 10 to 14mm long.

These plants are from elevations of about 1000 metres and usually grow on the moss-covered trunks and branches of shrubs and trees. In this environment the plants never dry out, but they are not constantly wet either. The air movement is constant and humidity high – all points worth remembering for



Above: ***Bulbophyllum maquilingense*** from Laguna (JC)

Above: ***Bulbophyllum maquilingense*** from Calayan Island (MH)

Right: ***Bulbophyllum maquilingense*** from northern Mindanao (JC)

Below: ***Bulbophyllum maquilingense*** from Sibuyan Island (MS)

the successful cultivation of these delightful miniature plants.

Photographic Credits

My sincere thanks to Michael Harrison for the pictures of the plant from Calayan Island and to Melanie Schori for the example from Sibuyan Island. Other photographs were taken by the author.

Jim Cootes
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Left: *Bulbophyllum maquilingense* showing plant habit (MH)

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FLORA'S ORCHIDS

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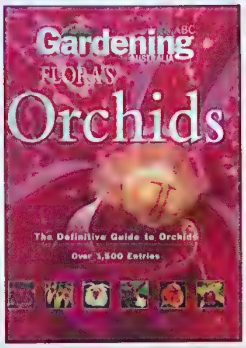

Part of the best-selling *Flora* range, this is the definitive guide to orchids with over 1,500 entries. Ranging from the unique to the unusual, the beautiful to the bizarre, orchids have long symbolised beauty, elegance and refinement. *Flora's Orchids* presents more than 1,500 varieties of this highly variable plant family, with entries accompanied by at least 1,300 stunning colour photographs. The orchids are arranged by genus in an A-Z format. Each entry first lists the scientific name in Latin, often accompanied by a Latin synonym and, where appropriate, the translated common name. Plant spread and height are listed, followed by symbols indicating plant type, natural growing locations, growing conditions, frost tolerance, preferred temperatures, type of flower, and preference for pot or mount cultivation. The brief descriptions explain the type of genus, geographic area, and flowering and dormancy seasons. There is a wealth of sound cultural and propagation advice.

AOR Editor David P. Banks was the Senior Consultant for *Flora's Orchids* and is also credited as the Principal Writer. Especially valuable for aspiring botanists and average gardeners is the background information that precedes the dictionary text and explains orchid varieties, taxonomy, hybridisation, history, cultivation, propagation, and more. The history section delves into the fascinating historical development of the plant for culinary and medicinal usage and also explores the use of orchids in folklore and literature. A detailed cultivation table for each of the species is found in the appendix. This work is regarded by many as the logical replacement of *What Orchid Is That?*

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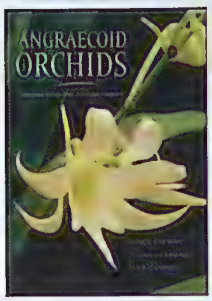

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by Joyce Stewart, Johan Hermans, and Bob Campbell

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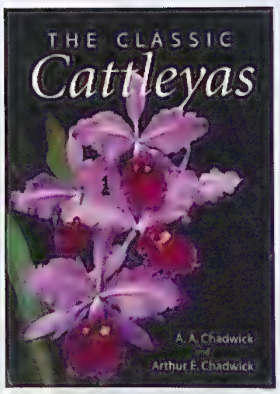
by A.A. Chadwick and Arthur E. Chadwick



In 1818, William Cattley succeeded in flowering one of the first species of the genus that would bear his name. These first cattleyas are the classic cattleyas, whose form defined the essence of tropical orchids for generations to come. Indeed, the colour of their flowers became known as "orchid." In this helpful and informative book, each classic *Cattleya* species (and cattleya-like *Laelia* species) is described in fascinating detail, and its role in breeding programs is elucidated. All that is required to appreciate and grow the large-flowered cattleyas successfully is included. There are ten line drawings and 162 wonderful colour photographs. Cultivation, humidity and watering, fertilising, propagation, and diagnosing and treating problems are detailed, making this volume valuable for both veteran orchid enthusiasts and those who simply love these beautiful flowers.

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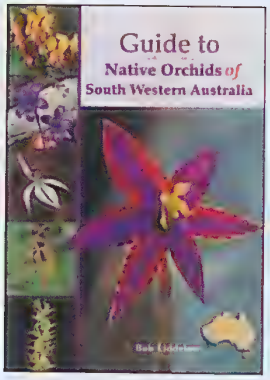

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by Bob Liddelow

This book beautifully illustrates the orchids of this part of Australia. Bob Liddelow has spent a considerable amount of time in the field, each season, seeking out many different orchids.

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by James Neal

This book is essential reading and reference for any person who grows, or is intending to grow, Phalaenopsis.

Jim, in a simple and easily understood style, explains and elaborates on light conditions, watering, temperatures, fertilisers, pests and diseases.

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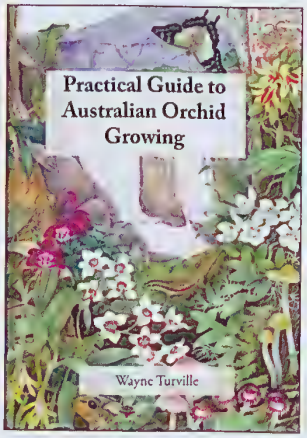

PRACTICAL GUIDE TO AUSTRALIAN ORCHID GROWING

by Wayne Turville

The 64 page *Practical Guide to Australian Orchid Growing* was over two years in the making, being written by Wayne Turville who runs a large commercial orchid nursery in Victoria, Australia – specialising in Australian *Dendrobium* hybrids. This book was written for everybody from the absolute amateur through to the hardened "orchid nut". However, due to its low cost and practical nature, this book fills a huge void in orchid literature. Simple, easy to understand language, lots of pictures, and glorious examples of the some of the finest native orchids ever photographed both in nature and at orchid shows.

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This orchid was Grand Champion at last year's Australian Orchid Conference held in Victoria. It was benched and subsequently awarded as *Phalaenopsis amabilis* 'Ben Yu' AM/AOC for owner Graham McKay. However the true identity of this Taiwanese form of moth orchid was resolved in 2001 when Eric Christenson named this taxon as *Phalaenopsis aphrodite* subsp. *formosana*, in his monograph on *Phalaenopsis*. So how have so many nurserymen, growers and orchid judges missed this name? In the next issue of the *AOR*, these white-flowered *Phalaenopsis* species will be discussed. Photo: Agi & Clive Halls

Cryptostylis hunteriana in the Blue Mountains, NSW

Text by David P. Banks, photos by Tony Rodgers

The "Leafless Tongue Orchid" *Cryptostylis hunteriana* is one of only five species within this genus of wasp-pollinated terrestrial orchids. All taxa are found on the East Coast of the Australian mainland, with the exception of *Cryptostylis ovata* which is endemic to the south-western corner of Western Australia. *Cryptostylis leptochila* also crosses Bass Strait to occur on Flinders Island, whilst *Cryptostylis subulata* is scarce in Tasmania and the south-east of South Australia. Apparently all species are pollinated by the male Ichneumon Wasp (*Lissopimpla semipunctata*), yet no natural hybrids have been recorded.

I was recently emailed some images by keen bushwalker and native plant enthusiast Tony Rodgers, after a brief conversation at an ANOS Sydney Group meeting, of a plant he believed was the uncommon and rarely seen "Leafless Tongue Orchid".

I have only seen this species in the wild on very few occasions, with all of these sites close to the coast and at low altitude. It has a distribution range from the Hervey Bay region of southern Queensland, south to eastern Victoria. In New South Wales I have seen healthy populations of this saprophytic species at Nelson Bay, and at nearby Alum Mountain, Bulahdelah (growing next to a population of the Eastern Underground Orchid *Rhizanthella slateri*). It has also been found near the Northern Beaches, north of Sydney. It seems to prefer a very sandy soil. I know my friend (and ANOS/AOC Conservation Director) Alan Stephenson has found small and very localised populations in the Nowra region from almost sea level to a site at 600 metres altitude. There are also herbarium records from the Gibraltar Range (~1000m).

Indeed, the photographs (included here) confirmed the recording of *Cryptostylis hunteriana* at Mount Banks, in the upper Blue Mountains at about 800 metres altitude. It is the first time to my knowledge that this species has been recorded from the Blue Mountains. Indeed it is not even mentioned in

Alan Fairley's excellent comprehensive book *Native Plants of the Sydney District*. The late Tony Bishop in his essential *Field Guide to the Orchids of New South Wales and Victoria* refers to it as being a rare species "extending onto the Northern Tablelands but otherwise coastal". I have yet to have it confirmed if there are any herbarium specimens in either Sydney or Canberra.

This recording of *Cryptostylis hunteriana* was made on the 30th December 2009, in mid-summer. Few plant enthusiasts go looking for terrestrial orchids in midsummer due largely to the limited number of species they are likely to encounter, plus safety issues such as oppressive heat and the risk of encounters with venomous snakes – which are abundant in these parts!

Mount Banks is an excellent site for terrestrial orchids (and wildflowers in general) with peak blooming times from winter to late spring. Other terrestrials seen at other times include the leek orchids *Prasophyllum elatum*, *Prasophyllum brevilabre*, the rare *Prasophyllum pallens* and the saprophytic *Prasophyllum flavum*, *Microtis oblonga*, *Diuris sulphurea*, *Orthoceras strictum*, *Eriochilus autumnalis*, *Calochilus paludosus*, *Thelymitra ixioides*, plus various "greenhood" *Pterostylis* species (including an unusual recording of *Pterostylis grandiflora*).

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June 26-27 Mingara Orchid Fair – Central Coast NSW
July 11 Tinonee Orchids Open Day & Show (www.tinoneeorchids.com) – Taree NSW
July 25 Hills District Orchids Winter Open Day (www.hillsdistrictorchids.com) – Northmead NSW
August 6-8 National Orchid Extravaganza (www.ccansw.com.au) – Dural NSW
August 7-8 2010 National Cymbidium Show (www.cymbidiumclubwa.com.au) – Perth WA
August 13-15 St Ives Orchid Fair – St Ives Showground NSW
August 20-22 Melbourne International Orchid Spectacular (www.oscov.asn.au) & Victorian International Orchid Fair (www.orchidfair.com.au) – Springers, Keysborough Victoria
August 25-29 ANOS National Conference & Show (www.anos.org.au) – Newcastle NSW
September 3-5 Dendrobium speciosum Spectacular – Kempsey NSW
September 9-12 Australian Springtime Flora Festival – Mt Penang NSW
September 18-19 Orchids in the Wetlands – Newcastle NSW
September 26 Hills District Orchids Spring Open Day (www.hillsdistrictorchids.com) – Northmead NSW
September 30-October 4 Tasmanian Orchid Society – Hobart Town Hall, Tas
October 8-10 Southern Orchid Spectacular – Sharkies @ Woolooware NSW
October 8-10 Queensland Orchid Society – Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens, Qld

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Plant & photo: David Banks